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THE

STATISTICAL ACCOUNT

OF

SCOTLAND.

DRAWN UP FROM THE COMMUNICATIONS

OF THE

MINISTERS

OF THE

DIFFERENT PARISHES.

BY SIR JOHN SINCLAIR, BART.

VOLUME EIGHTH.

"*Ad consilium de republica dandum, caput est nosse rempublicam.*"
CICERO, de Orat. lib. ii.

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MDCC, XCIII.

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CONTENTS.

Num.	Name of the parish.	Population in 1755.	Ditto in 1792-3	Increase	Dec.	Page
1	Dornoch,	2,780	2,541	- -	239	1
2	Eckford,	1,083	952	- -	131	20
3	Gigha and Cara,	514	614	100	- -	37
4	Ladykirk,	386	500	204	- -	71
5	Douglas,	2,009	1,715	- -	294	76
6	Tweedsmuir,	397	227	- -	170	86
7	Kilmartin,	1,150	1,537	387	- -	90
8	Auchtertoul,	389	334	- -	55	110
9	Carluke,	1,459	1,730	271	- -	120
10	Canisbay,	1,481	1,950	469	- -	142
11	Newburgh,	1,347	1,664	317	- -	170
12	Dundee,	12,477	23,500	11,023	- -	192
13	Cromdale,	3,063	3,000	- -	63	251
14	Tough,	570	560	- -	10	261
15	Stirling,	3,951	4,698	747	- -	271
16	Kelton,	811	1,600	789	- -	297
17	Applegarth,	897	741	- -	156	310
18	Beith,	2,064	2,872	808	- -	314
19	Guthrie,	584	571	- -	13	329
20	Glenorchy and Inishail,	1,654	1,669	15	- -	335
21	Criech,	1,705	1,730	25	- -	362
22	Duffus,	1,679	1,500	- -	179	384
23	Dumbarny,	764	1,250	486	- -	401
24	Kilmalie,	3,093	4,031	938	- -	407
25	Torryburn,	1,635	1,600	- -	35	448
26	Ferry-Port-on-Craig,	621	875	254	- -	456
27	Logie,	413	425	12	- -	470
28	Cadder,	2,396	1,767	- -	629	474
29	Muthil,	2,902	2,948	46	- -	485
30	Moy and Dalarossie,	1,693	1,813	120	- -	499
31	Lesly,	319	392	73	- -	511
32	Hawick,	2,713	2,928	215	- -	521
33	Clatt,	559	425	- -	134	535
34	Drymen,	2,789	1,607	- -	1,182	546
35	Edenkeillie,	1,443	1,800	357	- -	553
36	Monivaird and Strowan,	1,460	1,025	- -	435	567
37	Kilbride, in Arran,	1,369	2,545	1,176	- -	578
38	Moonzie,	249	171	- -	78	583
39	Symington,	264	307	43	- -	585
40	Alloa,	*5,816	4,802	- -	1,014	592
		72,948	87,006	18,875	4,817	
	Population in 1755,	72,948	4,817			
	Increase,	14,058	14,058			

* Doubts are entertained how far the parish of Alloa contained so great a number, as 5816 souls, in 1755; but the reader will easily perceive, that no fair comparison can be made, between the population in 1755, and at present, but by a strict adherence to Dr. Webster's account of the population at the former period.

STATISTICAL ACCOUNT OF SCOTLAND.

PART VIII.

NUMBER I.

PARISH OF DORNOCH.

(County of Sutherland—Preſbytery of Dornoch—Synod of Sutherland and Caithneſs.)

By the Rev. Mr. JOHN BETHUNE.

Origin of the Name.

THE town and pariſh of *Dornoch* derive their name from the Gaelic words *Dorn-Eich*, which ſignifies a *horſe's foot* or *hoof;* concerning which the current tradition is as follows: About the year 1259, the Danes and Norwegians, having made a deſcent on this coaſt, were attacked by William, Thane or Earl of Sutherland, a quarter of a mile to the eaſtward of this town. Here the Daniſh general was ſlain, and his army beaten, and forced to retire to their ſhips, which were not far diſtant. The Thane of Sutherland greatly ſignalized himſelf upon this occaſion; and appears, by his perſonal valour and exertion, to have contributed very much to determine the fate of the day. While he ſingled out the Daniſh general, and gallantly fought his way onward, the Thane being, by ſome accident, diſarmed, ſeized the leg of a horſe, which lay on the ground, and with that diſpatched his adverſary.

verſary. In honour of this exploit, and of the weapon with which it was atchieved, this place received the name of *Dorneich*, or Dornoch, as it is now called *.

Situation, Extent, Surface, Soil, Climate, &c.—Dornoch is the preſbytery ſeat; and, alternately with Thurſo in Caithneſs, that of the ſynod. The burgh of Tain, in Roſsſhire, ſtands on the ſouth ſide of the frith, directly oppoſite to Dornoch; and three computed miles to the weſtward of both, where the frith becomes pretty narrow, is the *Meikle Ferry*, ſo called in contradiſtinction to another arm of the ſea, called the *Little Ferry*. On each ſide of the former, there is a large boat for tranſporting carriages, horſes, and other cattle; as alſo a yawl for the accommodation of foot paſſengers; but at the Little Ferry theſe are found on the eaſt ſide only. At this ferry, four hands ſerve; and the ſame number at each ſide of the Meikle Ferry. Frequent complaints are heard of both; an evil not peculiar to theſe ferries, nor likely to be remedied, until the property and diſpoſal of ſuch be veſted in the public, inſtead of private proprietors, whoſe chief aim, naturally, is to have as high a rent as poſſible. This pariſh extends 9 miles from E. to W. along the coaſt of the frith of Dornoch; and from S. to N. or N. W. about 15 meaſured miles. It has a conſiderable extent of ſea coaſt, not only upon the frith of Dornoch, but alſo on that of the Little Ferry, which runs about 4 miles up the country on the eaſt ſide of the pariſh. The ſhores produce ſhell fiſh, particularly cockles and muſcles; but

* This tradition is countenanced by the *horſe-ſhoe*, which is ſtill retained in the *arms* of the burgh. In memory of the ſame event, a ſtone pillar was erected on the ſpot, ſupporting at the top a croſs, encompaſſed by a circle, which went under the name of the *Earl's Croſs*. Standing on a ſandy hillock, it was gradually undermined by the winds: ſeveral years ago it tumbled down, and was broke to pieces; at preſent, only ſcattered fragments of it remain.

but yield little other benefit to the inhabitants. The ſea-ware is of little value. There is only one boat's crew of fiſhermen, who are neither ſkilful nor adventurous: they are therefore wretchedly poor, and of little or no advantage to the place; while others from Murray and Banff-ſhire, catch fiſh on this coaſt, and make money, by carrying away the cod, haddocks, ſcate, flounders, &c. At the Little Ferry, there is an excellent harbour, where ſhips lie in perfect ſecurity, after having got over a bar, which runs acroſs the entrance. At high water, veſſels of 500 tons burthen may enter here. At the ſhore of Dornoch, too, ſmall veſſels lie in ſafety, with tolerable weather, as well as near the Meikle Ferry; but a formidable bar ſtretches from the eaſtern point of the coaſt of Dornoch, almoſt quite over to the ſouth ſide of the frith, called (from their inceſſant noiſe) the *Gizzing Briggs*. The banks forming this bar, are not, however, ſo cloſely connected, but that veſſels of conſiderable burthen (perhaps 300 tons) may enter, under the direction of a pilot. The ſhores are flat and ſandy, and the lands contiguous to them generally level; but gradually elevated as they approach the hilly diſtricts to the north. The ſoil is ſandy; the prevalence of that quality decreaſing in proportion to the diſtance from the ſhore. The higher grounds in culture, partake of moſs; of the clay kind, there is little in the pariſh. The air here, is pure and ſalubrious, if we except the immediate vicinity of a large moraſs, extending from the town of Dornoch upwards of two miles to the weſtward, and lying along the county road. This has been a *common*. Some years ago, a ſcheme of diviſion was formed, under the authority of the Court of Seſſion: It was accordingly divided among the proprietors of the adjacent lands, and march ſtones ſet up; but ſtill it lies undrained, and a nuiſance, as before. Some feeble

attempts have been made towards culture at the weſtern extremity of it.

River, Lakes, Animals, Minerals, &c.—Beſides the common domeſtic animals, foxes, badgers, pole-cats, hares, otters, and rabbits, are found in this pariſh; alſo eagles, hawks, muirfowl, woodcocks, partridges, plovers and ſnipes. The river of Evelicks, which falls into the ſea near the Meikle Ferry, affords a few ſalmon and trouts. The hilly part of the pariſh contains 3 or 4 ſmall lakes, in which a variety of trouts are found. The largeſt of theſe lakes may be about a mile long, and a quarter of a mile broad. One of them produces a fine red trout, which weighs from ½ pound to 1½ pound. The pariſh is not deſtitute of common ſtone quarries. At Embo there is one of free-ſtone. There is no natural wood of any value. A great quantity of *Moſs Fir* is found under ground: It ſerves for light to the poorer ſort; and logs are ſometimes dug up, which are uſed even in building. This ſort of timber is remarkably durable. At both the *Skibos* there are thriving plantations of *fir*, though of no great extent. At Evelicks, ſome appearances of *coal* have been obſerved; and about a mile to the N. W. of Dornoch is found a very rich clay. It is extremely hard to dig; the *pick* muſt go before the ſpade: It remains hard after expoſure to the air; yet a very ſhort carriage makes it run to the conſiſtency of *pitch*. When uſed in building, it takes an equal quantity of ſand.

Agriculture and Produce.—The crops raiſed here, are oats, bear, peaſe, potatoes, and ſome beans and rye. About the year 1758, potatoes became a principal article of proviſion here. Now, they ſerve as the chief ſubſiſtence of the people during a third part of the year; with many for *one half*, and with

with ſome even for *two thirds* of the year *. There are no field turnips cultivated here; and ſcarce any ſown graſs raiſed, except in two or three places, the ſeats of men of property; which are alſo the only incloſures in the pariſh. Hence, the arable ground is, for the greater part, in conſtant tillage. It is therefore no wonder, that it yields poor crops, in return for much labour and expence. *Lime* is little known here, as a manure. The benefit of it is not underſtood: nor could it indeed be procured but at a heavy expence; for though there are ſhells, the tenants cannot afford to burn them. Towards the ſhore, the prevailing crops are *bear* and *peaſe*; in the more inland farms, *oats*; and of the laſt, different kinds of white, and of ſmall black oats are uſed, according to the various qualities and circumſtances of the ſoil. The people find that *great oats* quickly degenerate in poor land; and while they admit that this is the more fruitful grain, ſtill they contend, that the other is, on the whole, more productive, as being more *numerous*, and yielding more ſtraw. The average returns of bear, may be from 5 to 6; of oats and peaſe, from 3 to 4. The two laſt are ſown in April, and reaped, the *peaſe*, in the end of Auguſt, and the *oats* in September. The bear is ſown in May, and ripe in Auguſt. After a good crop of potatoes, barley, without any additional manure, is expected, on the coaſt; but no oats, or very bad, after the barley, which is ſucceeded by peaſe; and the following ſeaſon, the land is manured and ſown with bear again. In the inland parts, *oats* are ſown after potatoes. Some farms yield three or more crops of oats in ſucceſſion; but the ſandy ſoil along the

* Many poor families, who rent no land, are accommodated by others with a ſpot for this uſeful root, for the ſake of the dung, ſoot, or aſhes which they lay upon it; and this, while it contributes eſſentially to the ſubſiſtence of the poorer ſort, is alſo the moſt prevalent mode practiſed here for improving and meliorating the ſoil.

the coaſt, produces not, in general, any tolerable crop of that grain. *Fallowing* is not practiſed here, except on the few incloſed farms already alluded to. Scarce any land is plowed in autumn, and but little in winter; the prevailing opinion being, that early plowing or ſowing, anſwers not with the light and open nature of the ſoil. Some ſmall tenants, on the coaſt, ſow no bear till about the 20th of May; and they are ſatisfied if but three weeks intervene betwixt the firſt and ſecond plowings. In light ſoil, *peaſe* are ſown before tilling, and then turned down by the *plough*; which ſeems to anſwer beſt, as by that mode, the ſcorching impreſſions of the ſun and wind are moſt effectually reſiſted, and a greater degree of moiſture preſerved around the ſeed. Even *bear* is ſometimes ſown here in the ſame manner. This is the moſt extenſively cultivated pariſh in the country, yet there is not an eight part of it in culture. It raiſes not, in ordinary ſeaſons, much more corn than is ſufficient for its inhabitants, including thoſe of the burgh. More *black cattle*, however, are reared here, than the pariſh requires for the purpoſes of meat and labour; but not ſo many horſes as the people employ. A few hogs are reared. In the lower parts of the pariſh there is little ſheep paſture: in the hilly diſtricts, flocks of theſe, and here and there, of goats, are kept; but neither conſiderable. The ardour for ſheep farming has hardly yet commenced here. The preciſe proportions of land, in culture, paſture, &c. is not aſcertained. The quantity of paſture grounds has been conſiderably reduced or deſtroyed: the former, by the gradual culture of ſmall ſettlers; and the latter, by the general practice of cutting *ſeal* and *divot*, or turf *.

Heritors

* This drew a pleaſant ſally from an Engliſh gentleman, ſome years ago. Obſerving a herd of meagre cattle here, gleaning a ſcanty ſubſiſtence on a naked ſpot

Heritors and Rent.—The beſt arable ground is let at 20 s. per acre: This is chiefly incloſed, or in the vicinity of the burgh. Inferior ground lets at from 8 s. to 12 s. and the worſt at 4 s. or even lower. The real rent may amount in all to about 1300 l. or 1400 l. Sterling. The Counteſs of Sutherland is the principal proprietor; beſides whom there are four heritors, excluſive of the proprietors of ſmall crofts contiguous to the burgh; of the laſt there are ſix. None of the firſt claſs reſides conſtantly, and but one has hitherto reſided occaſionally in the pariſh; another has lately built, and is expected to ſpend ſome portion of his time here.

Population.—Although the regiſters have not been regularly kept here, it is univerſally believed, that the population has increaſed within the laſt 30 years very conſiderably, to the extent, it is ſuppoſed, of at leaſt 500. This increaſe is not to be aſcribed to any addition from trade or manufactures; for except two whiſky diſtilleries, and ſome *flax* ſpun by the women, no branch of trade whatever is cultivated here. The increaſed population can therefore only be accounted for from theſe cauſes; that the women are prolific, and that by the ſubdiviſion

ſpot, while every cottage was built of feal, and thatched with divot, he ſarcaſtically remarked, that "though Sutherland was not deſtitute of *ſtones* or *graſs*, "the people choſe to build their houſes of the latter, and leave their cattle to "feed on the former!" This was ſetting our management in a light abundantly laughable; yet, the poor people are not ſo much to blame, as it was natural for this facetious ſtranger to conceive. They are, in general, very poor, and have but ſmall holdings. They never experienced the advantage of ſubſtantial, or the comfort of commodious dwellings; and did the ſet a due value on ſuch, they poſſeſs not the means of conſtructing them, and indeed have little encouragement for the undertaking. Small tenants have no leaſes here; little improvement, therefore, of any kind, can be expected. In juſtice to the proprietors, however, it muſt be added, that it is not their practice to remove the tenants *wantonly*.

ſubdiviſion of farms, and the advancing culture of ſmall crofts and muir ground, the people in general are encouraged to marry young. It may be added, that by the partial introduction of inoculation for the ſmall-pox, and by the improved treatment of patients under that diſeaſe, which has of late years been pretty generally adopted, even by thoſe who are not yet reconciled to inoculation itſelf, many lives have been ſaved, and other fatal diſorders prevented. Since the return to Dr. Webſter, however, in 1755, there has been a decreaſe upon the whole, as will appear upon inſpecting the following table.

Statistical Table of the Pariſh of Dornoch.

Length in Engliſh miles, - - -	9
Breadth, - - - - -	6
Population in 1755, - - -	2780
———, *anno* 1791,* - - -	2541
Decreaſe, - - -	239
Average of births, for five years preceding 1791, -	53
——— of marriages, † - - -	12

Inhabitants

* There may be upwards of 20 perſons included in the above number, belonging to this pariſh, and occaſionally reſiding in it, who make a practice of going yearly to the ſouth of Scotland to work, during, at leaſt, the ſummer and autumn. There is alſo included in the above enumeration, a diſtrict ſituated in the boſom of the pariſh of Rogart, containing 113 ſouls. There is no regiſter of burials kept here, nor would it convey any ſatisfactory information if there were, becauſe many families continue to bury here, though they no longer reſide in the pariſh; while others, now reſident here, bury elſewhere.

† *Abſtract of Baptiſms and Marriages, for five years preceding* 1791.

Years.	Baptiſms.	Marriages.
1786 - - -	70 - - -	19
1787 - - -	47 - - -	11
1788 - - -	56 - - -	10
1789 - - -	43 - - -	6
1790 - - -	48 - - -	16
	264	62

Inhabitants in the town of Dornoch,	500
——— in the country,	1908
——— in the diſtrict in Rogart,	113
Number of families in the town,	86
——— in the country,	466
——— in Rogart diſtrict,	24
——— members of the Eſtabliſhed Church,	2427
——— Seceders,	1
——— proprietors reſiding,	6
——— non-reſiding,	5
——— clergymen,	1
Sheriff-depute and clerk,	2
Number of writers or meſſengers,	1
——— of ſchoolmaſters,	1
——— of farmers above 30 l. *per annum*,	6
——— of ſhopkeepers in the burgh,	4
——— of ſmiths	1
——— of maſons,	1
——— of houſe carpenters	3
——— of poor in the pariſh, about	90
Annual income of the poor,	L. 7 0 0
Average of perſons who have ſettled in the pariſh from other counties ‡,	12
Number of ploughs,	183
Real rent, anno 1791, in Sterling money, about	L. 1400 0 0

Diſeaſes and Fuel.—The diſeaſes moſt prevalent here, among females, ſeem to be *ſtomach* and *hyſteric* complaints; and among males, *toothachs*, *colics*, *rheumatic*, and *ſciatic* complaints. All theſe ſeem to ariſe from *cold*, *poor diet*, *comfortleſs*

‡ Viz. Perth, Aberdeen, Murray, Roſs, and Caithneſs.

comfortleſs lodgings, and *ſcarcity of fuel**. The common mode of providing for winter firing here, is peculiarly injurious to health. During the ſeaſon, in which the poor people are employed in carrying it out of the hills, they go to the moſs, or ſo far in their way towards it in the evening; lie out in the open air all night, and load their horſes in the morning. The great diſtance, badneſs of the roads, weakneſs of their horſes, and ſcantineſs of paſture, impoſe this cruel neceſſity. There is no cart road to the moſs, peat and turf being carried by means of an aukward apparatus, on the backs of ſmall, half-ſtarved horſes. In one or two diſtricts of the pariſh, the people begin to ſee the abſurdity of this practice, and have actually made ſome attempts towards a better within the laſt two years; but nothing like a competent road has yet been executed.

Roads and Bridges.—Nature has made the public roads here paſſable: they owe little to induſtry or police; the ſtatute labour has occaſionally been exacted, but it has not been applied with that conſtancy and vigour, which would render it efficient. A commutation of it appears to be now in contemplation, among the proprietors of this and ſome other northern counties. This pariſh is deſtitute of bridges; the want of one is particularly felt at the river of Evelicks, which is often not paſſable in winter. A piece of ground, in the vicinity of Dornoch, is ſaid to have been deſtined by a former public ſpirited proprietor, for the purpoſe of upholding a bridge on this river, and to have been left by him, under the adminiſtration of the proprietor of a neighbouring eſtate. Whether there are any authentic documents extant, to eſtabliſh

* There are no well authenticated inſtances of extraordinary longevity. Some, however, live to the age of 80, and ſome 90 years.

bliſh this fact, is not known. At preſent, the field alluded to is held in property, in the ſame manner as the reſt of the eſtate, with which it has been ſo long connected; the preſent proprietor having purchaſed the whole, without any reſervation, from his predeceſſor.

Eccleſiaſtical State.—There are no ſectaries here, at leaſt no avowed ſeceders from the eſtabliſhed church; one man only, who is not a native of the pariſh, declines joining in the public religious ſervices. The ſtipend is 80 bolls of bear, and 700 merks Scotch, including communion elements. The glebe is conſiderably under the legal ſtandard. The manſe was built about 16 years ago, but was never ſubſtantially executed, or properly finiſhed, and therefore ſtands in need of repairs. Three aiſles of the ancient cathedral, form the preſent church; the fourth has been long in ruins. The church has undergone different repairs, and at a conſiderable expence. The Counteſs of Sutherland*, is patron. Moſt of the families, of any diſtinction, connected with the pariſh, continue to

 bury

* The family burying place is within the church. A neat monument has been erected over it to the memory of the laſt Earl and Counteſs of Sutherland, the parents of the preſent Counteſs, who both died in the flower of youth, within ten days of each other, at Bath, and were buried in one grave in the church at Holyrood-houſe, *anno* 1766. His Lordſhip had only attained the age of 32, and her Ladyſhip that of 26 years. This amiable pair were not leſs ennobled by their ſhining virtues, than by their high rank. Their humane diſpoſitions and condeſcending manners had greatly endeared them to all orders of ſociety. No wonder, then, that their untimely death was deeply felt, and univerſally deplored. The monument bears the following inſcription, borrowed from David's affectionate lamentation over *Saul* and *Jonathan*:

" They were lovely and pleaſant
" in their lives,
" And, in their death, they were
" not divided.

bury within the church*. In ſome meaſure to remedy this nuiſance, the church was lofted ſome years ago, at the height of about ſeven feet from the ground. To this upper ſtory, which is the preſent place of worſhip, the aſcent is by ſtairs from without, the open area underneath ſtill ſerving as a burying ground. Notwithſtanding this improvement, which is a conſiderable one, the church is, from its vaſt extent and ſtupenduous height, a very incompetent houſe of worſhip, being extremely cold, and beyond the powers of an ordinary voice †.

* Around the cathedral is the church-yard, without any fence, and in the centre of the burgh. It is the market place. The county road runs through it. Some years ago, the heritors of the pariſh and magiſtrates of the burgh, entered into a reſolution to prohibit all farther burying there. A piece of ground, without the town, was accordingly marked out for that uſe. A day was fixed, beyond which no perſon was to be admitted to the old ground, and public intimations, to that purpoſe, repeatedly made. But the prejudices of the people prevailed, and the project was relinquiſhed.

† Dornoch was formerly the ſeat of the Biſhop of *Caithneſs*. The preciſe time of the erection of the ſee is not aſcertained. Andrew, Biſhop of Caithneſs, is witneſs to a donation by David I. to the monaſtery of Dunfermline. He was biſhop here *anno* 1150, and is probably the firſt of whom there is any authentic account. In the 1222 was conſecrated biſhop here, *Gilbert Murray*; who, while yet a young man, and a canon of the church of *Moray*, greatly diſtinguiſhed himſelf in behalf of the independence of the Scottiſh church. Attempts had been made to bring the clergy of that church, under the juriſdiction of the Archbiſhop of *York*. The project was not only patronized by the King of England, but favoured by the Pope's legate, who held a convention on the ſubject at Northampton, in preſence of the Kings of England and Scotland, *anno* 1176. Gilbert was one of the inferior clergy, who attended the Scottiſh biſhops cited by the legate on this occaſion. After the legate had addreſſed a ſpeech to the convention, warmly recommending the meaſure in contemplation, a long ſilence enſued, the biſhops of Scotland being intimidated by the legate's preſence and authority. At length, *Gilbert Murray* aroſe, and aſſerted the independence of his church, in terms of ſuch manly determination, and vigorous eloquence, as at once

Poor.—The poor's roll of this pariſh generally contains from 80 to 100 perſons. There is no fund for their ſupport but

once revived the courage of his aſſociates, and extorted the applauſe of his adverſaries; whereupon the legate, apprehending that he had ſpoken the prevailing ſentiments of his country, broke up the aſſembly. The young orator was, on his return home, univerſally careſſed, and afterwards promoted to the ſee of Caithneſs. He built the Cathedral of Dornoch; died at Scrabſter, in Caithneſs, where the biſhops had alſo a reſidence in 1245, and was afterwards canonized. A ſtatue of him is ſtill ſhewn in the church here, under the name of *St. Gilbert*; but it is not entire. The laſt biſhop, Andrew Wood, was tranſlated here from the Iſles, anno 1680; and remained till the Revolution in 1688. Writers tell us, that *Dornoch* was alſo the ſeat of one of the monaſteries of the *Trinity*, or *Red Friars*, otherwiſe called *Mathurines*, from their houſe at Paris dedicated to St. Mathurine. The great profeſſed object of the inſtitution of this order appears to have been the redemption of Chriſtian captives; to which purpoſe a third part of their revenue is ſaid to have been deſtined. "*Tertia vero Pars*," ſays their conſtitution, "*reſervetur ad redemptionem captivorum, qui ſunt incarcerati, "pro fide Chriſti, a Paganis.*" Of 13 of theſe, which are ſaid to have ſubſiſted in Scotland at the Reformation, one was at *Dornoch*, founded in 1271 by Sir Patrick Murray. Not the ſmalleſt veſtige of the building, however, can now be traced; the very ſite of it is unknown at this day. The lands belonging to the miniſtry of Berwick were given to this place, after that city had fallen into the hands of the Engliſh. Here ſtand the ruins of the biſhop's caſtle, which appears to have been a ſtately and ſumptuous edifice. About the year 1567, *George* Earl of Caithneſs, who claimed wardſhip of *Alexander* Earl of Sutherland, then a minor, had got the perſon of the latter into his poſſeſſion. A tribe of Murrays, inhabiting this part of the country, who were firmly attached to the noble family of Sutherland, and beheld the conduct of Caithneſs with a jealous eye, contrived to get the minor conveyed from Caithneſs, and put under the protection of the *Earl of Huntly*. Caithneſs in revenge invaded this country, by his ſon John, who inveſted the town and Caſtle of Dornoch, of which the Murrays had poſſeſſed themſelves. Several ſkirmiſhes took place with various ſucceſs. The Murrays, no longer able to maintain the ground they had occupied, retired to the caſtle. Upon this the maſter of Caithneſs burnt the town and cathedral; but ſtill the beſieged defended themſelves in the caſtle for a month longer. At length, however, they were obliged to capitulate, having undertaken to depart out of Sutherland within two months, and delivered three hoſtages into the hands of the conquerors. The Murrays fulfilled their engagement; yet the hoſtages were treacherouſly murdered.

but the Sunday collections raiſed in the church, and ſmall fines occaſionally ariſing from delinquencies. Theſe collections ſcarce amount to 7 l. Sterling *per annum*; and even from that, ſmall ſalaries are paid to the ſeſſion-clerk and other parochial officers. Hence it is manifeſt, that the poor can derive from this ſource but little relief. They therefore collect their ſubſiſtence by wandering from place to place, and from pariſh to pariſh *.

Burgh.—Dornoch was erected into a *royal burgh* by a charter from Charles I. *anno* 1628. The council conſiſts of 15, including the provoſt, 4 bailies, a dean of guild, and treaſurer. By the conſtitution and practice of the burgh, 4 counſellors are annually changed. This is one of five, which compoſe what is called the northern diſtrict of burghs. It has no landed property, nor any other ſource of revenue, beſides the cuſtoms levied at ſix annual fairs held here, and which are on the decline, as indeed the place itſelf is in the laſt ſtage of decay. There is no other town or village in the pariſh, and this hardly deſerves the name. It contains only four merchant ſhops, ſuch as they are. Here, and throughout the pariſh, there are ſeveral ſhoemakers, taylors, weavers and ſmiths, ſcarce one of whom lives by theſe profeſſions. As they excel not, ſo are they but occaſionally employed in them, being

* In the year 1782, a ſevere dearth was experienced here; no lives, however, were loſt from that cauſe, though many of the poorer ſort endured extreme hardſhip. The managers for the Counteſs of Sutherland exerted themſelves laudably for the ſupply and relief of the people. A great quantity of victual was imported into the country by her Ladyſhip's order, and at her expence. Some ſupply was alſo obtained from Government. A benevolent gentleman at Glaſgow, a native of this country, ſent a cargo to be ſold, part of it at prime coſt, and part of it to be diſtributed *gratis* among the Poor.

being alſo farmers on a ſmall ſcale. No concluſion therefore could be drawn from an accurate enumeration of them. The ſheriff-ſubſtitute and ſheriff-clerk of the county, and a meſſenger, alſo reſide in the burgh; which has likewiſe a poſt-office and parochial ſchool. But there is no phyſician, ſurgeon or apothecary in the town or pariſh.

Language.—The popular language is the *Gaelic*; from which alſo almoſt all the names of the places are manifeſtly derived. In that language, *baille* ſignifies a *town*. Hence, *Tor-baille*, *Kerr-baille*, *Eun-baille*, *Skia-baille*, compounded of that word and others, ſignifying, *mount*, *rock*, *fowl*, *wing*; anſwering to the figure, ſituation, or other circumſtances of theſe places reſpectively. Some places in the vicinity of the cathedral, are denominated from the offices of thoſe who formerly held them; as, *Croit 'n 'Eſpig*, *Auchintreaſurich*, *Auchintaunter*; *i. e.* the *biſhop*'s, *treaſurer*'s and *chanter*'s fields. One place, now modernized into *Cyderhall*, was anciently, and ſtill is, in the *Gaelic*, called *Shierra*. This, according to a Daniſh gentleman, who lately viſited this place, ſignifies in the language of his country, *goat whey quarters*.

Character.—Petty frauds and offences againſt ſociety are prevalent here as well as elſewhere: little diſingenuities, pilferings, and wilful encroachments, are alſo committed; but the more daring and atrocious crimes are rarely heard of in this pariſh. The people here, cannot be called induſtrious; but they are tenacious and frugal of what they get. If they can but live without much exertion, they are content to live ſparingly; and if they relax of their uſual parſimony at fairs and other occaſional meetings, they know how to make amends by habitual economy and abſtemiouſneſs. Upon the whole, they are a quiet, tractable ſort of people, and under

proper direction and encouragement, might be employed in manufactures, with advantage to themſelves and to the country. Too numerous for the neceſſary purpoſes of agriculture, they have, at preſent, no other object before them, to occupy their attention, or to excite their induſtry. Their ſtature is rather above the middle ſize. They are altogether unacquainted with the ſea-faring life, nor do they diſcover any great ardour for the army, yet, when they do enter that ſervice, they prove excellent ſoldiers. The fencible corps raiſed at different periods, in this country, furniſhed opportunities for aſcertaining this fact. Every place where they have been quartered, will bear teſtimony to their good behaviour. They have approved themſelves to be regular ſteady men, patient of diſcipline and ſubordination; ſober and exemplary in their conduct, as ſoldiers and as men.

Propoſed Improvements.—Theſe may be comprehended under a few heads, viz.—the abolition of the partial, oppreſſive, and abſurd tax on coals;—the granting of proper leaſes and other liberal conditions from land-holders;—the introduction of manufactures,—and the eſtabliſhment of judicious arrangements for the employment and ſupport of the poor. Peats and turf are carried from ſo great a diſtance, as to occupy the time of thoſe who have horſes for the purpoſe, during a conſiderable portion of the ſummer and autumn. This proves a ruinous burthen to the tenants, who are obliged, on that account, to keep many more horſes than the purpoſes of agriculture require; and although the making of roads and the uſe of carts, might in a good degree alleviate the evil, the remedy would be but partial, eſpecially with regard to thoſe who are ſituated fartheſt off from the hills. Of theſe, ſuch as have few horſes, or none, buy their firing at an extravagant rate from the others, and ſometimes cannot procure it on any terms. Any

ny manufacturers ſettled here, would ſtand, in this reſpect, in the like predicament. The poor, who cannot afford to buy, are in a miſerable ſituation. They have to go a great way to collect burdens of *whins*, *broom*, *&c.*; nor does the dry dung that lies ſcattered on the fields eſcape them. To meliorate the condition at once of the land and of the tenants, it is evident, that ſuch very ſmall poſſeſſions as many of them have, ſhould not be permitted to exiſt. In the preſent ſtate of the country, they would not furniſh a comfortable ſubſiſtence, if they had them for nothing. There are, indeed, ſix large farms in the pariſh, from 30l. to 90l. Sterling, rent. There are alſo ſome others, of competent ſize, under the firſt mentioned ſum: But many ſmall tenants are crowded into one poſſeſſion, and others ſettled on ſmall detached portions, altogether inadequate to their ſupport. Each of theſe has his plough, however poorly provided of cattle; it is but little ſervice they are fit to perform, and that little they cannot do from the ſmallneſs of their holdings. The granting of long leaſes, to poor people, in theſe circumſtances, appears not adviſable, becauſe they are not in a ſituation to avail themſelves of them. Previous to leaſes, it would, perhaps, be expedient to provide otherwiſe for the ſupernumerary tenants, that the reſt might be ſuitably accommodated: the aged ſhould not be diſturbed, but the younger ſupernumeraries (manufactures being firſt introduced) might, ſome of them, be employed in theſe, and others in the ſervice of the tenants. Many of the preſent tenants would make a good exchange by this; they would, as the hired ſervants of others, be better fed and clothed than they now are, and would at the ſame time be relieved from their preſent ſolicitude, and reſponſibility to the landlord. In fact, this is very much the caſe now among the ſmall tenants: the ſervant lodges and fares in every reſpect as well as his employer; the former receives his wages, while

the latter is, perhaps, unable to pay his rent, or to furniſh cattle for his yoke. Hereby, alſo, another difficulty under which the country labours, would probably be removed, viz. the difficulty of procuring ſervants: This is, in a great meaſure, owing to the endleſs diviſion and ſubdiviſion of farms into trifling poſſeſſions, making almoſt every man a maſter. An intelligent, active, wealthy farmer, from an improved country, ſet down here and there, would exhibit an example, at once inſtructive and animating. Such a man, entering a competent farm, with a long leaſe and other ſuitable encouragements, would ſhew the people how to live, and how to acquire the means of living: Meanwhile, they having their poſſeſſions enlarged, and acquiring the ſkill, and adopting the practice of ſuch a man, would, as their circumſtances improved, build, incloſe, &c. and being firſt taught and enabled, would, by and by, afford the proprietor a ſuitable rent. With regard to manufactures, the country contains a ſufficient number of inhabitants, and might furniſh proper materials for them. The prices of labour and proviſions are, comparatively ſpeaking, moderate, though both have advanced conſiderably of late years*. Large tracts of ground in the neighbourhood, have lately been covered with ſheep. Here is a foundation for the woollen manufacture. The ſoil here too, appears very favourable to the raiſing of flax. Small quantities are raiſed yearly; it grows well, but from unſkilful management in watering,

* The pay of day-labourers can hardly be aſcertained, there being few or none of that deſcription here. If they were aſſured of conſtant employment, they might, perhaps, be found at 6 d. *per* day; occaſionally they demand 8 d. and ſometimes 1 s. In harveſt, women get 5 d. Domeſtic men ſervants have from 30 s. to 40 s. *per ann.* of wages, and women ſervants from 20 s. to 30 s. and both are on the riſe. Both men and women dreſs in a ſtyle very different from what they did 30 years ago; woollen ſhirts, which were then generally worn by the lower claſs, are laid aſide, and various articles of finery introduced among both ſexes.

watering, the want of a mill, and other difficulties, the profits are extremely precarious, and the whole proceſs is ſo tedious and laborious, as now conducted, that little benefit is derived from it. To give manufactures, of any kind, a fair chance of ſucceſs here, a company, compoſed of the proprietors of land, and profeſſional men, ſhould be formed: The latter only are fit to conduct ſuch buſineſs; and without the protection, the influence, and co-operation of the former, they would have many obvious and ſerious difficulties to contend with. No where can the poor be on a worſe footing than here. The principal heritors do not reſide in the pariſh, and therefore contribute nothing towards their ſupport: Wandering from one pariſh, and from one county to another, the moſt needy are often overlooked from ignorance of their real circumſtances, while on the other hand, impoſtors and ſturdy beggars abuſe the generoſity and credulity of the public. It is to be wiſhed that the poor were univerſally confined to their own pariſhes; that by aſſeſſments upon heritors, tenants, and others, in proportion to their ſeveral intereſts, holdings, and circumſtances, a certain proviſion were made for their ſubſiſtence; and that employment were furniſhed them, ſuitable to the meaſures of ſtrength and ability, which they may be found to poſſeſs. This laſt ſuggeſts an additional argument in favour of manufactures, as thereby the poor, at leaſt many of them, would be made to contribute ſomewhat to their own ſupport, and the public burthens proportionally alleviated. Upon ſome ſuch plan, the condition of the poor would be greatly improved, the public relieved from inceſſant teazing and frequent impoſition, and the burden fairly divided among all ranks and characters, in place of falling chiefly, or ſolely upon the humane and benevolent, and often thoſe leaſt able to bear it.

NUMBER II.

PARISH OF ECKFORD.

(*County of Roxburgh or Tiviotdale—Presbytery of Jedburgh—Synod of Merse and Tiviotdale.*)

By the Rev. WILLIAM PATON, A. M.

Name, Situation, and Extent.

THE ancient name of this parish, as appears from a passage in Sir Richard Baker's Chronicle, was *Ackforth* *, or *Aikeforthe*. In all modern writings it is styled Eckfoord and Eckford, the original derivation being from the Gaelic or Celtic,

* "In the 13th year of King Henry the VIII. and of James V. of Scotland, "Anno Domini 1522, when the Duke of Albany was established governor of "Scotland, he approached the southern borders with an army of 8000 men, "probably to observe the motion of the English upon the confines of Scotland, "but made no invasion into England; while the Marquis of Dorset, warden of "the east and middle marches, entered *Tiviotdale* with a number of English "forces, burnt all the towns and villages on every side as he marched north-"ward, and amongst others *Ackforth*, Grimslay, *Sessforthe* manor, &c.; and "upon Good Friday following withdrew back into England with his plunder, "amongst which were 4000 head of cattle."

Baker's Chronicle, page 259. *Ridpath's Border History, page* 515 *in the note.*

Lord Dacres was next year appointed warden general of the borders of England opposite to Scotland. From the above quotation it would appear, that Ackforth, now styled Eckford, was at that period a place of some consequence; but no other account can be found of its original state.

Celtic, the ancient language of the whole iſland. The original names of many places in Scotland are ſtill retained, with occaſional alterations, probably introduced by the Dano-Saxon dialect. It is ſaid to ſignify in the Gaelic the *Horſe Ford.* A ford is commonly known to be a ſhallow part of a river proper for paſſage; accordingly, at no great diſtance from the manſe, there is a very ſafe ford acroſs the river Tiviot from S. to N.

The extent of the pariſh from N. to S. is ſix miles and 3½ furlongs in length, and from E. to W. 4½ miles in breadth. It lies in the latitude of 55° 32′, and longitude of 10° 6′ weſt of London, according to Mr. Stobie's map of the county, publiſhed in 1770; (69½ ſtatute miles to a degree). The form is triangular, or nearly approaching to it. It is ſeparated by Tiviot, oppoſite to the church, from the barony of Ormiſton. The water *Kail* runs through it from S. to N. and is emptied into Tiviot, a little to the eaſt of the church. It is nearly at an equal diſtance of 4½ miles from Jedburgh and Kelſo.

Soil, Surface, Climate and *Diſeaſes.*—Upon the banks of the river Tiviot (which runs from weſt to eaſt through the county, and empties itſelf into the Tweed at Kelſo), the ſoil is generally light loam, riſing in gentle eminences ſouthward. It has been originally covered with heath, but by proper cultivation, is now rendered green and fit for paſture. There are no remarkable hills in this diſtrict, nor any waſte lands, except Cavertoun Edge, which has been of late chiefly devoted to the annual horſe races; although even ſome part of that ſpot is in cultivation. Part of Woodend Hill has been lately planted with firs, and within a few years will afford a beautiful landſcape. The air here is dry and ſalubrious. Seldom any epidemical diſeaſes prevail, excepting the ague, which

viſits

viſits this neighbourhood in the ſpring, occaſioned by the moiſt exhalations from the fens, and the eaſterly winds from the Cheviot Hills, at the diſtance of a few miles ſouthward. The people are in general healthy; but no inſtances of remarkable longevity have occurred during the incumbency of the preſent miniſter.

Cultivation and *Produce.*—A conſiderable change in the mode of agriculture has been introduced within theſe few years. The Engliſh plough univerſally prevails, and 2 horſes inſtead of 4 oxen and 2 horſes are now adopted. Raiſing turnips, with the preparation for that crop, ſuperſedes ſummer fallowing entirely. They ſucceed remarkably well in a dry and light ſoil through the whole country. Oats and barley are the grains moſt commonly ſown. Wheat, however, is now more frequent than formerly, after fallow, turnips and potatoes; which laſt is much and juſtly encouraged for family uſe, as well as for horſes, cattle and ſwine. Peaſe, by many judicious farmers, is not conſidered as a profitable crop, ſince broad clover and rye-graſs have been introduced; but they are continued to be ſown in ſmaller quantities, to mix with barley, for the bread of labouring people and cottagers of all deſcriptions. The raiſing of hemp is dropt here; but that of lint is continued, although not in ſuch quantities as formerly, both for family uſe and the public market. It is ſold on an average at 11 s. or 12 s. *per* ſtone *. An early kind of oats was,

* That which grew at the Weſter Moſs was in the higheſt reputation, for the bluiſh caſt which it acquired, from the quality of that ſtagnated water in which it was ſteeped. It ſold at about 15 s. or 16 s. the ſtone. But ſince that moſs was drained (for the purpoſe of digging a ſeam of marle found there), it has loſt that peculiar colour which enhanced its value. Steeping lint in running water is found prejudicial to flax, deſtructive to fiſh in rivers, and otherwiſe a great nuiſance, and accordingly is under very ſevere prohibitions by the juſtices of peace.

was, in 1776, introduced by Mr. James Church, tenant in Moſs-tower, on part of the Duke of Buccleugh's eſtate in this pariſh. He raiſed them from 60 grains of Poliſh oats, which he obtained from a friend, and planted in a corner of one of his fields about the 14th of June that year. Their produce turned out very conſiderable. They have been ſown on his farm every year ſince without degenerating. The ſoil inclines to gravel or light loam; and by experience they are found to anſwer beſt on dry land in good heart. They ripen by a month earlier than common oats, although ſown at the ſame time and upon the ſame ground. They muſt be cut down ſooner, and not allowed to continue growing until perfectly ripe, as they are more eaſily ſhaken than any other grain. They commonly yield between 11 and 12 ſtone of meal to the boll of oats, which in this country is 5 *falls* or firlots for oats and barley, and 4 firlots for wheat, rye, and peaſe; ſo that upon weighing a boll of theſe oats (including the weight of the ſack), the whole amounted to 28 ſtone by the Kelſo ſtandard. The reputation of theſe oats has increaſed ſo rapidly, that they are now generally ſown in this country, as well as through moſt other parts of Scotland, ſeveral parts of England, and they have even found their way acroſs the Atlantic to America. The grain of every ſort commonly ſown here, is ſufficient for the conſumption of the inhabitants. Quantities are ſold by ſample in the weekly markets of Kelſo and Jedburgh, at the prices then current. *Horſes have of late

* Wheat is ſown in September, and more frequently in October; rye much about the ſame time; oats in March and beginning of April; peaſe about the middle of that month; barley from the middle of April to the middle of May; turnips from the beginning of June to the middle of July; harveſt commences, in favourable ſeaſons, about the end of Auguſt, and generally through the month of September. The prices of grain and proviſions vary according to circumſtances and the ſtate of the preceding crops; wheat, at an average, ſells at

late years advanced in price, eſpecially ſuch as are fit for huſbandry and carting. Black cattle are generally of a good ſize, being bred from large Engliſh bulls. Although there are not any ſtock farms, properly ſo denominated, in the pariſh, particular attention has been paid to the breed of ſheep within theſe few years. Their wool is much finer, and conſequently is riſing in price, which is from 15 s. to 16 s. at an average *per* ſtone. There are 16 lb. of 24 oz. to the pound in the ſtone. The ſale has been very quick, and the demand ſtill continues. The incloſing of land with hedge and ditch is now prevalent, and meets the inclination of the farmer, who finds his profit and convenience thereby. They allow their landlords

at 30 s. the boll uſed in this country; barley from 15 s. to 18 s.; oats 15 s.; peaſe and rye at 16 s. The demand from other places frequently makes a conſiderable alteration in the market. Oatmeal is always ſold by the ſtone weight, the ſame as butcher meat, the medium price about 1 s. 6 d. 16 ſtones to a boll; beef uſually 3½ d. the pound; veal, mutton, and lamb, at 3 d.; pork 4 d.; geeſe 1 s. 6 d. ſtript of their feathers and ready for uſe; ducks and hens 8 d; turkeys 2 s. 6 d.; all at an average. The wages paid to domeſtic ſervants have increaſed much ſince the improvements in agriculture took place; a man receives annually 7 l. and a woman 50 s. with maintenance; day labourers 8 d.; women 6 d.; wrights, 10 d.; maſons 1 s. in ſummer, and 10 d. in winter; taylors 8 d.; turnip hoers and hay makers, 8 d.; a man for harveſt work 1 s., and a woman 9 d., with their diet. Hinds, who provide their own diet, are allowed a free houſe, graſs for their cow in ſummer, and fodder during winter and ſpring, 8 bolls of oats for meal, 2 bolls of barley, 1 boll of peaſe for family bread, and 1 firlot of potatoes planted. Every cottager pays the rent of the houſe by harveſt labour, has a ſmall ſpot of ground adjoining to the habitation, for furniſhing cabbage and pot-herbs, ſome potatoes planted in the field, lint ſown, and ſometimes potatoes or barley, as far as their dung covers the ſurface. Theſe cottagers, with their families, are eagerly deſired by the farmers, ready at a call upon every emergency, employment being given to their children from the age of 8 or 10 years and upwards, according to their reſpective abilities. Since the cultivation of turnips became ſo univerſal, theſe cottages are valued at one guinea rent through the year: The family are provided with turf brought home by their maſter. Theſe houſes are never left unoccupied, although reared at the expence of the farmer.

lords intereſt for ſuch ſums of money as may be neceſſary for incloſing. Every farm has ſeveral upon it, generally in a thriving condition. The rent is from 10s. to 20s. *per* acre. The numbers of tenants has of late years diminiſhed by the union of ſeveral ſmall poſſeſſions into one. But to carry on the buſineſs in theſe large farms, a greater number of ſervants is required; ſo that this has not had ſo much influence in depopulating the pariſh as might have been expected. According to the report of the moſt judicious farmers, one half of their land is laid out in tillage, one fourth in turnips, and the reſt in paſture. Such fields as are ſown with red or broad clover, and rye-graſs, for hay, continue in that ſtate for one year, and then are plowed for other crops.

Manure.—Two ſeams of marl, deeply impregnated with ſhells, were opened, about the year 1777, at Eckford Weſter Moſs, upon the Duke of Buccleugh's eſtate, the upper one of about 8 feet thick, covered with 9 feet of moſs; the ſeam below it 7 feet at an average, ſeparated from the other with a ſtratum of clay of 4 feet, without any other intermixture. The marl is found to ſuit a light ſoil, when well ſpread on the ſurface, in proportion of 60 or 70 bolls to the Engliſh acre: a ſtrong loam requires a larger quantity. All green crops, ſuch as peaſe, graſs, clover, &c. receive benefit from it; and when ſpread on paſture ground, in the beginning of winter, and allowed to mellow by froſt, it proves of very great advantage to the enſuing crop. The meaſure for the boll is a cube, containing 8 cubic feet: it is ſold to the Duke's tenants for 3 d., and to others for 4 d.; at the diſtance of 3 miles for 2½ d.; at 5 miles, and all above that, for 2 d. the boll. Its excellent quality increaſes the demand; for it fully gratifies the moſt ſanguine expectations of the farmer and improver of land. Lime is alſo much uſed, and with great advantage, although tranſported from Northumberland,

at the diſtance of upwards of 20 miles. A quarry of lime-ſtone has lately been wrought at about half that diſtance. The experiment has not as yet been ſo extenſive as fully to aſcertain its excellence for the purpoſe of huſbandry. The proprietor (by its demand) has been encouraged to erect a draw kiln; and as it ſeems to increaſe, another kiln is propoſed to be built next ſeaſon.

Proprietors and Rent.—Property has not undergone any conſiderable change of late in this diſtrict, excepting Marlefield, purchaſed by the Marquis of Tweeddale from William Niſbet of Dirleton, along with the eſtate of Grubbet. There are 8 heritors in all: Only one reſides conſtantly, and another occaſionally during part of the ſummer ſeaſon. The valued rent of the diſtrict by the commiſſioners of ſupply, *anno* 1742, is 11130 l. 13 s. 4 d. Scotch. The preſent real rent is 3699 l. 4 s. 1 d. Sterling.

Church.—The preſent church was built about the year 1662. It was completely repaired and new ſeated in 1774 and 1775, and is now rendered exceedingly convenient. The manſe was rebuilt in 1775, and is equally commodious. The offices have been lately repaired. The glebe is rather ſmall, even including the paſture ground. Water for the family uſe is tranſported from the river Tiviot in a water carriage, there being no ſpring in the immediate neighbourhood of the houſe. Of late, pump wells have been dug in the villages of Eckford, Weſter Moſs, and Moſs Tower, and ſome other places, which ſupply the inhabitants plentifully with that neceſſary article. The living conſiſts of 35 bolls 3 firlots 1 peck and 2 lippies of barley (of the meaſure commonly uſed in this county, viz. 5 firlots to the boll); 23 bolls and 4 ſtones of oatmeal (16 ſtones to the boll); 32 l. 18 s. $7\frac{2}{12}$ d. Sterling, in money; 5 l. for communion elements; 42lb. of cheeſe, from

from a farm in the pariſh, of vicarage tithes, paid regularly every year, not having been commuted; with a piece of muirland for the excluſive right of turf, which the miniſter generally occupies yearly, at the diſtance of above a mile. By the late additional expence of living, the preſent incumbent found it neceſſary to commence a proceſs of augmentation of ſtipend before the Lords Commiſſioners for plantation of kirks and valuation of teinds. Having met with no oppoſition therein from his heritors, a decreet of modification was pronounced; but as the proceſs is not quite finiſhed, the amount of the augmentation cannot as yet be aſcertained. The King is patron. Eckford, from ancient records, ſeems to have been a vicarage dependent upon the Abbey of *Jedworth*, commonly called Jedburgh.

Poor.—There are no parochial funds, or mortified money for the poor. Their maintenance ariſes from aſſeſſments every half year, at what is called a pariſh meeting for that purpoſe; the one half upon the heritors according to their valued rent, and the other half upon their tenants according to their preſent rents, reſpectively. The ſum aſſeſſed is levied by a collector appointed for that purpoſe, who is allowed ſome gratuity for making the caſt, and levying the money. It is put into the hands of overſeers for the poor, who diſtribute it to thoſe perſons admitted upon the roll of penſioners, according to the weekly allowance paid, which varies in proportion to the riſe and fall of grain. Perſons claiming this charity, muſt have reſided in the pariſh for 3 years, without interruption, before the application is made; and they are required to ſubſcribe a bond or deed of conveyance, bequeathing their effects to the heritors at their deceaſe, as a check to prevent concealed property, or alienating this charity, and to hinder the interference of relations in that event. Theſe effects are ſeldom exacted, and therefore turn out of ſmall account to the pariſh.

The funerals of such persons are commonly ordered to be defrayed by the meeting. When disease or misfortune attacks any person, as during the high price of oatmeal in 1782, and proper application is made to the meeting for charity, what is called an interim supply is granted. There are no begging poor in this district. The weekly collections in the church, which are but small, are also applied to alleviate the wants of the most needy as they occur. The number of paupers at last inrolment was 24.

School.—There is a public school, and dwelling house for accommodating the schoolmaster, kept in repair by the heritors; the salary was lately augmented, and is at present 81. 6 s. 8 d. yearly. He has a small piece of ground inclosed for a garden, contiguous to the house: his other emoluments are, 30 s. for collecting poor's rates yearly, school-fees for English, 1 s.; 1 s. 6 d. for writing, 2 s. 6 d; for arithmetic, *per* quarter each; for registration of each baptism, 4 d.; proclamation of a marriage, 1 s.; extract of a testimonial for a single person, 4 d.; for a family, 6 d.; as clerk to the kirk session, 10 s. yearly; besides some casual articles. The number of scholars is from 40 to 50 at an average; but as the school is not centrical, being towards the western limits of the parish, some infirm persons are generally employed to teach young children at a distance (in Caverton and Cessford) the English language, and the elementary principles of religion from the catechism. They are furnished with a house *gratis* from the farmers, and satisfied for their pains with what the parents can afford.

Fuel—The fuel commonly used in families is coals, which are brought from a distance of about 20 miles, and some from Northumberland. Although in some parts of the county there is the appearance of small seams, none of the trials hitherto made have succeeded, nor is it probable they will, without considerable

ſiderable expence and perſeverance. The common people make uſe of turf, broom and furze; but theſe two laſt have become ſcarce, through cultivation of the land that formerly produced them. Peats are not plentiful, there being no moſſes but in places where the marl is got; and this being nearly exhauſted, the poorer inhabitants muſt ſuffer conſiderably very ſoon by the want of this article: and indeed the diſtance from coal is one great reaſon that manufactures have not been eſtabliſhed in this country, though wool is in great abundance, and the neceſſaries of life may be obtained for the moſt part at moderate rates.

Population.—The population in 1756 was about 890 ſouls above the age of 8. It has often varied according to circumſtances. An accurate ſtate of baptiſms cannot be obtained, as diſſenters from the eſtabliſhment ſeldom order the names of their children to be engroſſed; and the regiſter of births, marriages and burials is not regularly kept, as the pariſh clerk has no allowance for that purpoſe. The dues to government for theſe are paid on the firſt of October yearly: of theſe he preſerves a memorandum, and afterwards enters them on the records, according to which the annexed abſtract* will furniſh ſome idea of the population for ten years paſt.

Statiſ-

* *Abſtract of Baptiſms, Marriages and Deaths, during the laſt ten years.*

	BAPTISMS.			MAR.	BURIALS.		
Years.	*Males.*	*Fem.*	*Total.*		*Males.*	*Fem.*	*Total.*
1781	14	11	25	7	3	8	11
1782	10	10	20	4	4	1	5
1783	10	7	17	5	4	3	7
1784	5	12	17	9	2	6	8
1785	13	11	24	7	5	5	10
1786	11	5	16	5	4	2	6
1787	5	9	14	8	4	5	9
1788	10	3	13	7	10	7	17
1789	4	5	9	10	4	4	8
1790	6	8	14	7	4	5	9
Total,	88	81	169	69	44	46	90

Statiſtical Table of the Pariſh of Eckford.

Length in Engliſh miles,	6
Breadth,	4½
Population in 1755,	1083
———, *anno* 1791,	952
Decreaſe,	131
Average of births, for ten years preceding 1791, nearly	17
——— of deaths, for ditto,	9
——— of marriages, nearly	7
Number of males,	436
——— females,	516
——— males under 10 years of age,	71
——— females, under ditto,	67
——— families,	219
——— houſes inhabited	212
——— members of the Eſtabliſhed Church,	742
——— Seceders and Relievers,	210
——— proprietors reſiding,	2
——— ——— non-reſiding,	6
——— clergymen,	1
——— eſtabliſhed ſchoolmaſters,	1
——— farmers,	25
——— keepers of alehouſes,	2
——— ſmiths maſons, wrights, &c.	34
——— millers,	5
——— ſervants,	106
——— poor,	24
Valued rent in Scotch money,	L. 11,130 13 4
Real rent in Sterling,	3699 4 1

Roads, Bridges, Rivers, &c.—There is a turnpike road from Carliſle to Berwick upon Tweed, Newcaſtle, &c. made at the expence of the county, through the pariſh, but kept in repair

repair by the tolls. Statute labour, by a late act of parliament, is commuted at the rate of 7 s. 6 d. Sterling, for every 100 l. Scotch of valued rent. Theſe roads are found to be of eſſential ſervice for promoting ſpeedy communication in an inland country. There is an old bridge of one arch over Kail Water, at the Mill of Eckford; the parapet walls are gone. It is ſaid to have been built by the money ariſing from vacant ſtipends about the Revolution. There is another over the ſame water, near its conflux with the river Tiviot, built at the expence of the county, on the great turnpike road. The fiſh in theſe rivers are trout and ſalmon. The trout in Kail are preferable to thoſe in the Tiviot: The ſalmon come up the Tiviot at all ſeaſons, but in greater numbers in the months of *September* and *October*, for the purpoſe of ſpawning. The gentlemen of the county have it in agitation to form a canal from Berwick to Ancrum Bridge, up the Tweed, and to croſs the Tiviot. A ſubſcription for defraying the expence of a ſurvey, to be taken by Mr. Whitworth, was lately ſet on foot, and the ſurvey taken accordingly from Ancrum Bridge, and eaſtward, in the neighbourhood of this place. The committee appointed for conducting the canal, having abridged the former plan, appointed Mr. Whitworth to ſurvey and give in an eſtimate of their laſt plan, which was reported to the meeting of the Michaelmas Head Court on the 14th of October laſt, of which they approved, and appointed the ſame committee to circulate ſubſcription papers, towards raiſing the neceſſary fund, for carrying the work into execution.

Eminent Men.—Sir William Bennet of Grubbet, was born and reſided at Marleſield, in this pariſh, the greater part of his life. He was a gentleman of conſiderable genius and learning. It is reported that he afforded aſſiſtance to the late Allan Ramſay, in compoſing the paſtoral comedy of the Gen-

tle Shepherd, and in ſome other poetical productions of thoſe times. He was very juſtly reſpected for integrity and benevolence; and indeed the whole family are ſaid to have been remarkable for hoſpitality and public ſpirit. Their remains lie interred in an aiſle, adjoining to the church of Eckford, on the north ſide of it, with this inſcription over the door:—*Hoc monumentum ſibi et ſuis bene merentibus, ponendum curavit Dominus Gulielmus Bennet, Eques Auratus, Anno Salutis* 1724.

Antiquities.—On the ſouth of the preſent village of Ceſsford, the remains of the ancient caſtle of that name*, are yet to be ſeen. No date is diſcernible to fix the period of its erection; but from thoſe parts of the walls yet entire, it appears to have been a place of conſiderable ſtrength, both from the thickneſs

* The firſt proprietor of this caſtle, mentioned in hiſtory, was Andrew Kerr, who obtained the title of Baron of Ceſsford, and got a charter of confirmation from Archibald Earl Douglas, thereafter ſtiled Duke of Turenne, Douglas and Longueville. This charter is dated *anno* 1446; and in the reign of Queen Elizabeth and James VI. of Scotland, *anno* 1570, the laird of Ceſsford was made warden of the Scottiſh middle marches*; it became afterwards one of the titles of the noble family of *Roxburgh*, which it ſtill continues to be. Such was the ſituation of *Scotland* before the acceſſion of James VI. to the throne of England, that every Baron's houſe was more or leſs fortified, according to the power and conſequence of its lord, or ſituation of his caſtle. Thoſe eſpecially, at a diſtance from the ſeat of government, and therefore not under the awe of the law, when the predatory ſyſtem prevailed, found it neceſſary for their habitations, and places of reſidence, to be better defended againſt the incurſions of the neighbouring plunderers. Ceſsford caſtle, therefore, being only at the diſtance of 4 or 5 miles from the Engliſh confines, was neceſſarily rendered a place of ſecurity; and according to tradition there was a ſubterraneous vault for concealing both perſons and goods within its walls, to which acceſs was only got by one aperture, which was opened or ſhut as ſeemed neceſſary by a large ſtone with an iron ring in it. This ſtone and ring have been ſeen by ſome perſons ſtill alive; but the entrance to the *peel* or dungeon is now chocked up with rubbiſh.

* *Redpath's Hiſtory, p.* 635.

thickneſs of the walls (which are 12 feet at an average) the veſtiges of the battlements on the top, the embraſſeurs on the ſides, and the remains of a ſurrounding moat, which was probably furniſhed with water from a ſpring above the preſent farm houſe. The roof is entirely gone. The area within the walls, diſcernible, is 39 feet in length, and 20 in breadth; the entry to it was probably from the N.E. About 7 or 8 years ago, in digging for ſtones on the farm of Hoſpital-land, belonging to the Duke of Roxburgh, the labourers diſcovered a tumulus, in the bottom of which were found two earthen pots; the one about 3 feet deep, and 18 wide; the other rather ſmaller; both containing blackiſh duſt, and ſmall fragments of human bones: Upon expoſure to the external air, theſe veſſels tumbled down and could not be preſerved *. There have alſo been found ſilver coins of Queen Mary, in good preſervation, near the ſhepherd's houſe in Eaſter Wooden, where ſome faint veſtiges of a tower, it is ſaid, have been traced. Part of the walls of a ſtrong building were to be ſeen ſeveral years ago at Moſs Tower †, ſo denominated from its ancient ſitua-

* Near the ſite of the ſcaffolding erected on Caverton Edge, for viewing the annual horſe races, and at a gravel pit on the road between Caverton and Kelſo, there was found a copper veſſel, of about 6 inches diameter, encloſing an excavated wooden ball; and in both theſe laſt mentioned places, ſimilar parcels of black duſt and fragments of bones were found. In digging for ſtones in Wooden Hill, in the eſtate of the Duke of Buccleugh, to form an incloſure for a plantation of firs, two or three veſſels of earthen ſubſtance, of about a foot deep, were got, containing ſimilar duſt, and fragments, ſuppoſed to be of children by their ſize; and about 4 years ago, in the field called the *Dales*, near the village of Eckford, a ſtone coffin, (or ſquare ſtones erected, and covered with another large one) was ſeen, containing bones of a large ſize.

† From a paſſage in the Border Hiſtory, § it appears, that the Earl of Suſſex, anno 1570, with an Engliſh army, burnt and razed this tower, belonging to the *Laird*

§ *Redpath's Hiſtory, page* 635.

tion in a marſh: theſe walls are ſince pulled down. There was a chapel in former times towards the eaſt of the village of Caverton, but no veſtige remains. A ſmall church-yard is ſtill occupied in ſepulture by ſome families in the pariſh, (and probably by ſome others), whoſe anceſtors had privilege there; and a ſpring in the adjacent field, north of the church-yard, bears the deſignation of the *Holy Well*, or *Prieſt's Well*. About a quarter of a mile ſouth from the family houſe of the late Mr. Hall of Haugh-head, ſituated on the banks of the Kail, there is an eminence, ſeemingly artificial, called *Haugh-head Kipp* (the adjacent fields being level), of a circular form. It had formerly been planted round with firs, ſome few of which are ſtill remaining: Upon the top of it a plain flat ſtone

Laird of Buccleugh, and ſtill part of his Grace's eſtate in this diſtrict. It is reported to have been occupied by *Hepburn* Lord *Bothwell*; but no inſcription or monumental information can be traced to confirm this tradition. The incumbent has ſeen a medal of the Empreſs *Fauſtina*, that was taken from the heart of a peat found at Moſs Tower. It was about the ſize of a half crown; the letters and inſcription were very diſtinct. In Weſter Moſs of Eckford, nuts, roots, and pieces of large oak, and other trees, have been dug up; alſo ſome horns of the red deer, very large, and the ſkull of a biſon.—Since writing the above, the incumbent viſited and inſpected a place, vulgarly called the *Black Dike*, which, by its elevation above the contiguous plowed field, cannot fail of attracting obſervation. It is on a riſing ground, about half a mile from Kail water, and to the eaſt thereof. This tumulus meaſured 27 feet over; at its weſtern extremity, where it appeared to have been dug for a ſmall ſpace, from ſide to ſide 33 feet. Its whole length is 342 feet; and at the eaſtern extremity it is 42 feet over. It lies in a direct line E. and W. The materials of which it is compoſed, ſo far as can be obſerved, are fine looſe mould, intermixed with large ſtones, covered over with heath, although there is none in its immediate vicinity. This tumulus, or barrow, is reported to have been a place of ſepulture in troubleſome times; but no human bones have as yet been dug up. In the year 1349, during the reign of *Edward* the III. of England, and *David Bruce* of Scotland, when the Scotch invaded the Engliſh borders, 5000 of their army dropt down dead of the plague, having caught the infection, which at that time raged through the realm of England; but whether their bodies were there interred is uncertain.

ſtone of an ell ſquare, bears an inſcription, commemorative of ſome rencounter the proprietor had, with thoſe who had taken violent poſſeſſion of his eſtate, and were plowing his fields. The inſcription, ſo far as could be taken down on the ſpot, is as follows, viz.

Here Holy Hall boldly maintain'd his right,
'Gainſt Reef * plain force armed with lawles might;
For Tuenty Pleughs harnes'd in all their Gear,
Could not his valient nobl Heart make Fear,
But with his ſword he cut the formoſt Soam,
In two, Hence drove both Pleughs and
Pleugh-Men home. 1620.

This perhaps may allude to what happened in the reign of James I. of England, when uniformity of religion was projected for both kingdoms, and, the Common Prayer Book being intended to be introduced into Scotland, occaſioned no ſmall diſturbance for a conſiderable time.

Character.—The people are in general economical, ſober, induſtrious, and contented with their ſituations in life; maintain ſociety amongſt themſelves, and with their neighbours; are hoſpitable to ſtrangers who accidentally come amongſt them; and are endowed with a liberal ſpirit to relieve the diſtreſſes, and alleviate the miſeries of their fellow creatures upon every emergency, according to their abilities. The only means of meliorating their condition, is by a prudent and perſevering attention to what they can perform; and, if the projected canal, from Berwick up the river Tweed, and part of Tiviot, take place, coals and lime, with foreign commodities, will be obtained at an eaſier rate, and the produce of this country exported conveniently; which would be a fortunate circumſtance, not only to this diſtrict, but to the whole county.

* *This word is much defaced.*

Miſcellaneous Obſervations.—At the diſtance of a few yards from Ceſsford Caſtle, and to the N. W. of the veſtige of the Moat, there ſtands a venerable aſh tree, called the *Crow Tree*, expanding its branches, and covering a conſiderable ſurface with its ſhade, which, though very old, ſeems as yet in a healthy ſtate. It meaſures at the baſe 27 feet 8 inches round the girth; at 6 feet upwards, 15 feet; and at the clift where the branches (which are thick and ſtrong) diverge and ſpread, 14 feet 6 inches; ſo that its diameter, at an average, to the clift, is 5 feet, and is ſuppoſed to contain 300 feet of wood. This tree is of great antiquity, and has been often viſited and admired by the curious.—There are 3 corn mills in the diſtrict, two of them on the Kail, the other on the Tiviot; one of theſe was lately rebuilt, and the machinery properly adapted for grinding oats, barley and wheat, and for making pot barley. —There is a ſaw mill at Marlefield, on the Kail Water, where the plantation of firs, fit for dales, paling and other purpoſes, are prepared, and meet with ready ſale. There is alſo a fulling mill on the ſame river.—In June laſt, a neſt of thoſe carnivorous birds, uſually called *hooded crows*, was diſcovered by a ſhepherd on the banks of Kail. There were two young ones in it; one of which was entirely *white*. By ſome inattention it died; and its remains (lately in the incumbent's poſſeſſion), were tranſmitted to a certain virtuoſo in Edinburgh, for preſervation in his muſæum, where it may be ſeen. There are two quarries of good free ſtone, one of them at preſent not occupied; and a ſort of grey ſlate taken from the bed of Kail, now diſuſed, being apt to ſlice, and at any rate found too heavy for roofing.

NUMBER

NUMBER III.

PARISH OF GIGHA AND CARA.

(*County of Argyll—Preſbytery of Kintyre—Synod of Argyll.*)

By the Rev. Mr. WILLIAM FRASER.

Origin of the Names.

IN an account of an expedition of Haco King of Norway into Scotland, it is mentioned, that on his way to Kintyre, he touched at Gubey (now Gigha), where one of the prieſts, in his train, died, and was buried with great pomp; and that ſome friars of a certain order attended the funeral with a pall. *Gudey*, or *Gud-ay*, is interpreted "the Iſland of God." In the Gaelic language theſe words, "*the Iſland of Gigha*," are written *Eilean Ghia*, and pronounced *Eilean Ya*. *God's Iſland* is written, in Gaelic, *Eilean Dhia*, and pronounced, as above, *Eilean Ya*. Now as both *dh*, and *gh*, in this language, ſound like the conſonant *y* in Engliſh, people, without attending to the meaning, might take the inflected caſe, *Dhia*, as if it were *Ghia*, of which the nominative is *Gia*, as *Dia* is the nominative of the other word. This change might alſo have proceeded from religious conſiderations. Though men named, or pointed out, certain places as belonging to the Deity, they never called ſuch places directly by his name. Thus *Eilean Dhia*, or *God's Iſland*, might with propriety be applied to a particular iſland conſecrated to the Supreme Being; but it would be reckoned both

both abſurd and impious to call it *Dia, i. e. God.* Therefore ſuch people, while they endeavour to keep the analogy of ſound, avoided, by the change of a ſingle letter, the charge of abſurdity and profanation. As to the letters *gh*, now thrown into the middle of the word (*Gigha*), it is only done in imitation of a particular provincial ſound, by which ſome pronounce it *Giga*. The origin of Cara is unknown.

Situation and Extent.—This pariſh, conſiſting of two iſlands, Gigha and Cara, forms a part of the ſouthern diſtrict of Argyllſhire, called Kintyre, from which it is divided by a channel 3½ miles broad. It lies along the weſt coaſt of that diſtrict, extending nearly from N. E. to S. W. The iſland of Gigha is about 7 Engliſh miles in length, and 2½ in breadth. Proprietors, Mr. M'Neill of Gigha, Mr. M'Neill of Gallachoillie, and Mr. Stevenſon of Airdglamie. South of Gigha, at the diſtance of 1½ mile, lies the iſland of Cara, which is near 1 mile long, and ½ mile broad. Both iſlands are low, having few hills, and thoſe hardly ſo high as the arable land on the oppoſite coaſt of Kintyre. In both, the ſoil is fertile, vegetation quick, and the air ſalubrious.

Gigha.

Appearance, Soil, and Coaſt.—The eaſt ſide and both ends of Gigha, are for the moſt part arable. The weſt ſide and middle, hilly, but mixed with arable land. The ſoil in general is a rich loam, with a mixture, in ſome places, of ſand, moſs or clay. The ſhore, on the weſt ſide, is high, rocky and bold, except near both ends, where there are breakers at ſome diſtance from the land. On the eaſt ſide there are ſeveral points jutting into the ſea, with a few ſunk rocks, which render the navigation in ſome degree dangerous to ſtrangers, eſpecially at night: In day-light the breakers over the

the ſunk rocks are viſible. Between theſe points, are ſeveral bays and creeks, where ſmall veſſels can be ſafely moored. In the bay of Airdmé'aniſh, at the head of which is the church, there is good holding ground in 5 and 7 fathom water. Between Gigha and Cara lies Gigulum, a ſmall uninhabited iſland, with a range of breakers and large rocks running S. W. In the ſound between this iſland and Gigha, there is a good anchoring place for large veſſels, which may be conveniently moored on the Gigulum ſide, by means of iron rings fixed in the rock. The entrance from the weſt is between the above mentioned range of rocks and the iſland of Gigha, and from the eaſt between Gigulum and Gigha.

Tides, Sea Ware, Kelp, &c.—The tide runs north; but there is no remarkable current near the coaſt: nor is it eaſy to aſcertain at what rate of knots it runs, being a kind of eddy, that ſtrikes off from the rapid current, which runs between the Mull of Kintyre and the Sound of Ilay. It ſeldom riſes above 5½ or 6 feet; and that only with a north wind, or in calm water. With a ſouth wind, there is hardly a foot of difference between high and low water. This is attended with diſadvantages in repairing, loading and unloading large veſſels. It alſo prevents the manufacturing of kelp to any great extent; 7 tones, at an average, being the greateſt quantity made in a ſeaſon *. There is, however, ſuch abundance of ſea ware thrown aſhore in ſtormy weather, as ſufficiently ſerves the inhabitants for the purpoſe of manuring their ground. Though ſhell ſand abounds in ſeveral parts of the iſland, it is never uſed as a manure, being attended with more

* Sea ware has not hitherto been cut annually, but at the end of every 3 years. By getting ſo much time to grow, the quantity of kelp may be about 21 tons at every cutting of the ſea ware.

more trouble than ſea ware, and having failed the only time it was tried, owing to a miſtake in the quantity laid on, and the nature of the ſoil on which it was put. To people who are tenacious of old cuſtoms, and averſe to deviate from the practice of their anceſtors, the want of ſucceſs in ſuch a caſe, is a more powerful argument againſt it, than any thing that can be advanced in its favour: Therefore it is in vain to maintain, that this valuable kind of manure is preferable to wrack, or more permanent in its effects. There are inexhauſtible banks of another kind of ſand, which is uſed in making window glaſs. It is white, very fine, and, when cloſely examined, the particles have a pellucid appearance. Specimens of the glaſs were ſent to the proprietor, from the glaſs work at Dumbarton, where, in the courſe of three years, they got above 600 tons of this ſand. The colour of the glaſs is greeniſh.

Fiſh and Fiſhing Bank.—Shell fiſh are found in great abundance. They are of a large ſize and excellent quality, conſiſting of lobſters, crabs, cockles, and razor fiſh (commonly called *ſpout fiſh*. About two leagues north of Gigha, there is a fiſhing bank lying, N. E. and S. W., near 4 leagues in length. From the beginning of February to the end of March, the N. E. end of this bank is frequented by fine grey cod, weighing, when caught, from 6 to 16 lb. each; beſides ſome ling, large haddocks, and a great number of ſcate and dog fiſh. From March till May the S. W. end is frequented by excellent red cod. This bank had been neglected for 20 years, till Mr. M'Neill of Gigha, in 1788, fitted out 1 boat by way of trial. In 1789, 2 boats were employed, and every year ſince, from 5 to 8. But their ſucceſs has, by no means, been ſuch as to encourage the people to perſevere; owing partly to the want of large ſailing boats, which would enable

enable them to ſet and raiſe their long lines in the month of March, which is always ſtormy, by reaſon of the eaſt wind, that ſets in periodically at that ſeaſon. Another cauſe is, the preſent duty on ſalt, which is ſo high, and all the regulations reſpecting it ſo numerous and complex, that, till a change be made in this branch of the revenue, it is impoſſible to carry on the white fiſhing, in ſuch a manner as to become extenſively uſeful, to thoſe whoſe local ſituation is moſt favourable for it*. The other fiſh taken on this coaſt, are ſoal, lythe, mac-

* There was a great fiſhing on this bank formerly, but it had been neglected for upwards of 20 years, till Mr. M'Neill of Gigha came to the iſland in 1788, when 1 boat and 4 men were employed by way of trial. In 1789, 2 boats and 8 men were employed: during theſe two years they had little ſucceſs. In ſpring 1790, 5 boats were fitted out with 4 men in each, beſides four additional men for ſalting and curing. By their induſtry, 4000 fiſh were ſent to market. In ſpring 1791, 8 boats, with the ſame proportion of men, were employed; and about the ſame number of fiſh, as the preceding year, were ſent to market. A man who had the charge of Mr. M'Neill's eſtate, purchaſed the fiſh at 4d. each cod; but, having uſed debenture ſalt the firſt year, was obliged to export the fiſh to Ireland, where, after trying different markets, he was at laſt under the neceſſity of ſelling the whole at half the price he had paid, beſides other expences. The ſecond year, in order to avoid ſuch inconveniencies, he purchaſed ſmall ſalt which paid duty in Scotland, and entitled him to diſpoſe of his fiſh for home conſumpt. This cargo he ſold at Glaſgow, at the average price of 6 d. each fiſh.

The method of fiſhing the cod is as follows:—They are taken with a long line, 700 fathoms in length, having from 400 to 500 large white tinned hooks. The bait uſed is the fiſh of a large white wilk, called *Buckie*, or *Dog-wilk*, which is found on a different bank from that whereon the cod is caught. At the beginning of the fiſhing, a dog is killed and ſinged, and the fleſh, after rotting a little, is cut in ſmall pieces and put into *creels* or baſkets, made of hazel wands, for the purpoſe. Theſe creels are ſunk by means of ſtones thrown into them. The fleſh of the dog, in its putrid ſtate, is ſaid to attract the wilk, which crawls up round the ſides of the baſket, and getting in at the top, cannot get out again, owing to the ſhape of it, which is ſomething like that of the wire mouſe trap. After the firſt day's fiſhing, the heads and entrails of the cod, with ſcate,

and

karel, ſeaths, cuddies, rock fiſh (or ſea perch), girnet and flounder.

Roads

and dog-fiſh, are put into the creels, which are viſited every day, the wilks taken out, and freſh bait of the ſame kind put in, there being no more occaſion for dog's fleſh.

The other fiſh caught on the coaſt of Gigha, are lythe, mackarel, rock-fiſh, (or ſea perch) ſeath, and cuddie. All theſe frequent ſunk rocks near the ſhore, and are taken with a ſtout fiſhing-rod, hair line, and a hook, mounted with either a gooſe or ſea gull's white feather, ſometimes with a ſmall piece of almed white leather. The *cuddie* (or young ſeath), is taken with a ſmall rod and line, having a ſmall hook (or a pin bended in the form of a hook), mounted with a feather as above. They are fiſhed from the rocks along the ſhore. At certain times of the year, the cuddie is taken with the fiſh of the black ſmall wilk, parboiled. The cuddie is taken either with the fly or bait all the year. Every perſon fiſhes for himſelf on the rocks, only the whole party join in pounding the bait, and caſting it into the ſea, in order to collect a greater number of the fiſh. As ſoon as the pounded bait is thrown in, theſe beautiful ſmall fiſh make their appearance in great numbers, darting at once from all directions like the radii of a circle Lythe, &c are only killed from May to November. Every boat has 4 men, and each boat catches from 60 to 200 ſeaths in an evening. Rock fiſh, or ſea perch, are often taken in creels, which are ſunk in deep water near the ſhore. There are alſo flounders and eels, but they are ſeldom caught.

At an average, there are annually about 60 of the inhabitants employed in the herring fiſhing, from June till January; all their wages are laid out in purchaſing clothes and other neceſſaries for themſelves. Moſt of them being unmarried, they live all ſpring with their parents or friends, which hurts the intereſt of both parties; as, from the habits they acquire on board, they are not much inclined to work hard aſhore. This inconvenience is increaſed, in proportion as the fiſhing is ſucceſsful; for, when there is a good fiſhing (as they are paid by the month), their wages will be leſs, and the period of their inactivity prolonged. For inſtance, if a veſſel makes her cargo in a month or ſix weeks, ſhe immediately returns home, and the hands are diſcharged, without any proſpect of more employment that ſeaſon. Hence the propriety of giving a ſmall bounty to the hands employed in killing the herring, according to the number of barrels, and the time in which they were taken; at leaſt, ſomething ſhould be done to make up the difference of their wages, when the fiſhing is ſucceſsful. And if the ſame were extended to the cod-fiſhing, it would be attended with very happy effects. In this caſe, all thoſe perſons might be uſefully employed from the beginning of February, to the next herring fiſhing in June.

Roads and Ferry.—From the harbour of Gigulum ſound, there is an excellent line of carriage road, finiſhed half-way to the north end of the iſland, which will ſoon be completed the whole length, to the great convenience of the inhabitants, who are now beginning to uſe carts, of which there are already ſix in the iſland. The ſtatute labour for making roads is converted into money at the rate of 1s. 6d., or 2s. for each perſon annually. Beſides this fund, there is a ſhilling in the pound, valued rent, payable over the whole county, by an act of Parliament paſſed in 1774; but the money thus raiſed, goes to the great lines of road (particularly ſpecified in that act) on the main land; and as theſe are ſtill incomplete, nothing of the money exigible by the act of Parliament, can be applied to other places; conſequently the road in Gigha has been carried on at the expence of the principal proprietor. Between Gigha and the oppoſite coaſt of Kintyre, there is a regular ferry and two boats, one in the iſland, and one on the main land. The diſadvantage attending this ferry, is, the want of a quay on the Kintyre ſide, which is ſo much expoſed to the ſtorm, that in winter it is not eaſy to ſave a boat, otherwiſe than by drawing her up. To this may be added another inconvenience, the want of a proper houſe to accommodate people who wait at the ferry. Both theſe inconveniencies might be removed at a ſmall expence, and, if removed, that expence would ſoon be refunded. It is with regret it muſt be obſerved, that ſuch inattention to public convenience has been, and ſtill is, too frequent in the Highlands.

Houſes and Quarries.—Within theſe 4 years, two new public houſes, each conſiſting of two ſtoreys and garrets, and a malt kiln and granary, all with ſlated roofs, have been built, beſides repairs and offices about the old manſe, which the principal proprietor occupies as a temporary manſion houſe,

the late incumbent not taking it as a legal manſe. There were alſo built two ſtore-houſes, one at each harbour, a brew-houſe, and 14 other houſes. Excluſive of the church, there are in all 5 ſlated houſes, 4 of which are inhabited. Round the whole iſland, along the ſhore, there are excellent flag quarries, of a gray and bluiſh colour, which can be eaſily dreſſed, and make good pavement, floors, or hearth ſtones. Neither lime nor free ſtone, at leaſt of good quality, have been diſcovered, but there is abundance of whin and grey ſtone, fit for building handſome houſes.

Fuel.—The only fuel here is peats, which are ſo ſcarce, that the proprietors are under the neceſſity of allowing the inhabitants to cut away the ſurface of paſture, and even meadow grounds. In many places the rocks have been ſcalped, ſo as to make the ſight very diſagreeable to the eye, beſides the untoward conſequences to the proprietors, who loſe a great part of very good paſture land. This diſadvantage muſt always increaſe, until ſome plan is adopted to enable the people to purchaſe coals, which an equalizing duty at the pit would effectuate. The preſent duty upon that neceſſary article, which is generally thought to be as unproductive to the revenue, as it is grievous to the ſubject, is ſo univerſally reprobated, that it is aſtoniſhing how it is kept up ſo long. Whatever might have been the reaſon for adopting ſuch a plan of taxation at firſt, it muſt now be conſidered as both abſurd and oppreſſive; to tax people who, beſides the original price of the coals, are obliged to hire veſſels at a great expence to carry them home, while thoſe who are near the coal works and free from ſuch additional expence, pay no duty at all, is partial in the extreme. If conſidered in a political view, it will appear no leſs abſurd; it is an effectual bar to the introduction of manufactures into the Highlands, (to the want of

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which are owing the frequent emigrations that take place from that part of the kingdom) and conſequently it prevents a number of veſſels from being employed in that trade, which, in time of peace, would be a means of ſupporting many families, and, in caſe of war, a ſource of increaſing the number of thoſe brave men, to whoſe intrepidity and courage Great Britain owes her conſequence as a maritime power, and her proſperity as a commercial nation.

Wood.—Another inconvenience here, in common with all the Weſtern Iſles of Scotland, is the want of wood. This inconvenience, however, may, by due attention, be removed in this iſland, for it ſeems to have been once well ſtocked with trees. Several oak trunks are dug up in the moſſes, and ſome houſe timber, the natural growth of the iſland, ſtill remains. Many of the inhabitants remember a good orchard, which produced excellent apples; and the place is ſtill marked by a plane tree, the only one left of ſix that were there in ſpring laſt. About 60 years ago, ſome aſh trees were planted, and a few of them likewiſe remain, ſufficiently large for the common purpoſes of building and farming utenſils *.

Farms

* It is a common opinion, that wood will not thrive in the Weſtern Iſles of Scotland. This opinion is ill founded and contradicted by facts. Even in the ſmaller iſles there has been plenty of trees once, as appears from the trunks which are ſtill found in their moſſes. Hence there is good reaſon to believe, that they would ſtill grow, would proprietors perſevere in making experiments, beginning on a ſmall ſcale, and, by degrees, enlarging their plan as they found it become ſucceſsful. As to the larger iſlands, there are undeniable proofs, that they formerly abounded with wood; and that the want of it now, is not owing to any thing unfavourable in the ſoil, climate or ſituation, but wholly to the negligence of the inhabitants. For, beſides the large trees, that are yearly found in their moſſes, there are fine ſprouts of oak, aſh, and other wood, growing in the vallies, or upon the ſheltered ſides of the hills, which, in winter, are neglected and allowed to be eaten up by the cattle. Were ſuch places incloſed,

and

Farms and Incloſures.—The number of farms in Gigha is 15. They pay from 30 l. to 100 l. rent each. All theſe, except

and care taken to preſerve them, there would be a great deal of wood in a few years, with very little expence.

The advantages reſulting from ſuch improvements in other places, are univerſally acknowledged: Much more ſenſibly would they be felt in remote iſlands, where at preſent there is not the ſmalleſt twig growing, and where, therefore, the poorer ſort of inhabitants are obliged to expoſe themſelves, in trifling open boats, to the hazard of a long and dangerous navigation, in order to purchaſe, at a dear rate, what, by proper attention, might be raiſed within the iſland. On theſe occaſions, they endeavour to make the moſt of their voyage, by overloading their boats; and, as this kind of cargo does not ſtow well, there is always too much top weight, which is often attended with fatal conſequences; inſtances of which could be ſpecified. This conſideration alone ſhould excite proprietors, to adopt every rational plan, for introducing into theſe iſlands an article ſo much wanted, to render the ſituation of the inhabitants comfortable, and, indeed, the only thing wanting to render theſe iſlands among the moſt delightful places in the kingdom to viſit, or retire to in the ſummer. Nature furniſhed this article in great abundance formerly, and ſtill offers to produce it, would people but avail themſelves of her bounty, by ſeconding her efforts. Beſides the great advantage of raiſing trees for domeſtic uſes, and the alteration it would make on theſe iſlands in point of beauty, it would be attended with other good effects. By increaſing the degree of warmth, it would quicken vegetation; it would alſo ſcreen the fields from blaſting winds; ſave the corn from ſhaking; and, in the winter time, afford ſhelter for cattle.

On places directly expoſed to the ſtorms of the Atlantic ocean, it is probable that every attempt to raiſe trees will prove abortive. But in places ſheltered from thoſe ſtorms, they will certainly grow, if care be taken to preſerve them from cattle, and to prevent people from deſtroying them. Inſtead of one large plantation, ſeveral ſmall clumps might be tried; and where they were found to thrive, more might be planted; where they did not, the loſs and expence would be leſs felt. Various kinds of trees ſhould be tried, and different experiments made; ſuch as raiſing them from the ſeed, thinning them as they grew up, and tranſplanting thoſe thus raiſed at different ages, and into different ſoils. Where the ground is marſhy, or ſo much expoſed that trees will not come to perfection, it might be rendered very valuable by raiſing ſallows, for which there is always a demand for making hoops, creels and baſkets; and could

more

except 4, are poſſeſſed by two or more tenants, who, inſtead of occupying each farm in common as formerly, are now beginning not only to divide them from one another by march dikes, but alſo to ſubdivide each farm, ſo that every tenant may have his own ſhare marked out and incloſed. This gives them a true idea of property, promotes emulation, begets a ſpirit of improvement, and ſtimulates to induſtry and exertion. Though averſe to ſuch a change at firſt, they now begin to acknowledge the benefit of it; and the proprietor, who had ſome trouble, before he could perſuade them to adopt this plan, has the ſatisfaction to find, that thoſe who have tried it, are ſenſible of its advantages, and mending in their circumſtances.—Diviſion of farms naturally leads to incloſe them; and this, beſides the advantage of ſecuring property, occaſions a degree of ſhelter and warmth, much wanted in iſlands, where generally the arable land lies along the ſhore, and is much expoſed to the ſtorm. The old practice of raiſing earthen fences, (which beſides the perpetual expence and labour of repairs, are moſt pernicious to the ſoil), is gradually going into diſuſe

more be raiſed than ſufficient to ſerve the inhabitants, the overplus might be ſold to advantage, among the veſſels that conſtantly frequent theſe iſlands in the fiſhing ſeaſons.

If after repeated trials, in low iſlands, which are much expoſed, it be found that trees will not grow, would it be an extravagant plan, to make one or more ſmall incloſures with a ſtone and lime wall, which might be raiſed annually in proportion to the growth of the trees, to the height, *at laſt*, of 20 or 30 feet? Proprietors of ſuch iſlands, who have handſome fortunes, and reſide on their own properties, might, it is preſumed, lay out a little money yearly on ſuch a plan, without being conſidered in the light of projectors. If "the growth of "two blades of graſs, where only one grew before, renders a man more "uſeful to his country than the whole race of politicians put together,*" how much greater ſervice does he perform, who, by his attention and public ſpirit, raiſes a few trees in thoſe iſlands, where *not one* is now to be ſeen?

* *Swift.*

diſuſe, and in a ſhort time will be totally aboliſhed. In order to effectuate this, and to introduce the method of building ſtone fences, men have been brought from other countries, to carry on this uſeful improvement. Since the year 1788, beſides drains *, ditches and hedges, about 1000 falls of dry ſtone wall have been built: and the ſame work is ſtill going on with great ſpirit.

Cultivation and Produce.—They begin plowing about the 1ſt of February, and work with 4 horſes in a plough. The principal proprietor, however, works with only 2 horſes, a method which is now becoming general in ſeveral parts of the county †. There are 24 ploughs in the iſland, of which 2 are of the low country kind; the reſt aukward and heavy. Their harrows are all wooden, and generally take 2 horſes to drag each of them. The teeth (or wooden pins), which wear faſt, muſt be made long, in order to be driven through to ſupply the waſte; ſo that one is at a loſs to know which is the

* Great additions may be made to the arable and paſture ground, by draining, and by blaſting and clearing away ſtones; and pains are taken, both by example and advice, to make the inhabitants ſenſible of the advantages ariſing from this kind of improvement. Upon the whole, all the improvements which have been carried on ſince the year 1788, and which have coſt upwards of 2000l. Sterling, have contributed greatly to the intereſt of both the proprietor and the tenants.

† The barbarous practice of working with four horſes abreaſt, which ſtill prevails in ſome parts of the Highlands, is ſaid never to have obtained here. But another practice, no leſs barbarous, is ſometimes uſed, though not ſo common as in other places, that is, tying the harrow to the horſe's tail. This is often done to ſave the expence and trouble of harneſs, and ſometimes to *tame* young horſes, as they term it, which, indeed, it does with a vengeance. For the honour of human nature, as well as from a regard to the ſafety and eaſe of that noble animal, to which we are ſo much indebted for a great ſhare of the pleaſures and conveniences of life, it were to be wiſhed that other proprietors would form a reſolution, as is now the caſe in Gigha, to put an effectual ſtop to ſuch cruelty. "A merciful man hath compaſſion on his beaſt."

the right ſide; nor indeed does it make any great difference as to the effect produced, which ſide is uſed. Though they neither pulverize the ground nor cover the grain, the people prefer them to iron-pinned harrows, and maintain, that were they to uſe this latter kind, they could never raiſe a good crop. Such are the effects of ignorance and prejudice, two powerful enemies to improvement in the Highlands of Scotland *. The produce of the iſland, conſiſting of oats, barley and potatoes, is more than ſufficient for the maintenance of the inhabitants †. All kitchen ſtuffs may be raiſed in great abundance and perfection, the ſoil being good, and neither moles nor any continuance of froſt to counteract the exertions of the gardener. A good quantity of flax is raiſed yearly, which is ſpun and ſold in yarn, at 2 s. the ſpindle. Till late-

* They begin ſowing the latter end of March, and finiſh their barley ſeed about the beginning of June. Barley harveſt commences the latter end of Auguſt; that of oats near the middle of September; and the whole is finiſhed about the latter end of October. As there is no intenſe froſt of any continuance, and as the greater part of the arable land is dry, they might begin to plough and ſow much earlier, and conſequently their harveſt would commence ſooner. They are at great pains in cleaning their ſeed corn, and preparing their barley ground, which they plough thrice. They have derived great advantage of late from foreign corn ſeed and bear, which was introduced by the proprietor.

† The Gigha boll is equal to 20 pecks Linlithgow meaſure. Laſt crop ſold at 14 s. the boll of oats; 1 l. 2 s. the boll of barley; 18 s. 8 d. the boll of meal (10 ſtone weight); 8 s. the boll of potatoes, meaſuring 4 barrels heaped. Of the barley, 250 bolls (Linlithgow meaſure) are diſtilled in the iſland; and about 160 bolls, of the ſame meaſure, ſent to Campbeltown and other places: Of potatoes about 1000 barrels are ſent out of the country: Of the meal there will be about 120 bolls bought up from the tenants by the proprietor, for the uſe of his workmen. Aquavitæ ſells at 14 s. the gallon; a ſtone of cheeſe, 24 lb., coſts 5 s.; a ſtone of butter 10 s.

ly, there was no hay made in the iſland; and indeed there is hardly any yet, except what the proprietor makes: but as the people now ſee, by the great returns he has had, the benefit of incloſures, the improvement of ſowing graſs ſeeds is likely ſoon to follow.

Black Cattle and Horſes.—The iſland of Gigha was formerly divided into 30 merks land, to eachof which 14 cows and 4 horſes were allowed: The ſame proportion to the iſland of Cara, conſiſting of 1 merk land. According to this method of calculation, the number is eaſily aſcertained.

	M.L.	Cows.	Cows.		M.L.	Hor.	Hor.
Gigha, -	30	× 14	= 420	Gigha, -	30	× 4	= 120
Cara, -	1	× 14	= 14	Cara, -	1	× 4	= 4
Cows in the pariſh, -			434	Horſes in the pariſh, -			124

The preſent number, however, of black cattle and horſes far exceeds this calculation. The black cattle may be reckoned at leaſt ⅓ more. Some fat cows are commonly ſent to market in the beginning of winter, and draw from 3 l. 15 s. to 5 guineas each. The number of black cattle, ſmall and large, ſold annually, will be about 120. Milk cows ſell at 4 l. and 5 l.; lean cows, in May, draw from 2 l. 10 s. to 3 l.; heifers from 1 l. 10 s. to 2 l. 12 s. 6 d.; ſtirks, or year-olds, from 16 s. to 1 l. 1 s. Horſes are bought at 3 l. 10 s. and 9 l., according to their age and ſize. The number of horſes annually bought muſt be very ſmall. As ſome are yearly ſold out of the iſland, it is probable that the number reared is ſufficient for the place.

Sheep and Swine.—The farms in Gigha are rather confined for ſheep; and as the common tenants cannot keep them ſeparate

parate from other cattle, they are to ſell them off, it being found, that when they are not kept by themſelves, they degenerate, and prevent the improvement of black cattle; a thing too much neglected formerly in this place. But by this plan, it is not intended to baniſh this uſeful animal from the iſland altogether. As there are ſome points of land, forming ſo many peninſulæ, which can be eaſily incloſed, it is meant to keep a certain number of a good kind for the convenience of mutton, and the improvement of the finer kind of wool. At preſent the ſmall highland kind of mutton ſells at 7 s. 8 d., lamb at 2 s. 6 d. or 3 s.—A good many ſwine are reared; but the damage they do among the paſture ground is greater than any advantage they bring. Till ſuch time, therefore, as a proper method of confining and feeding them can be adopted, it were better to baniſh them altogether, which the proprietor means to do, unleſs they are kept in a hog fence. They are ſold at from 16 s. to 1 l. 4 s. A pig coſts from 1 s. 6 d. to 2 s. 6 d., according to its age.

Wild Animals, Poultry, &c.—The only deſtructive animal is a ſmall ſpecies of wild cat, which ſeldom comes near the farm houſes, but keeps near the ſhore and among cairns, where it kills rabbits, of which there are many in the iſland. Rats and mice are ſometimes troubleſome. The amphibious animals are ſeals and otters, but not very numerous.—There being no foxes, polecats, weaſels, &c. poultry of all kinds are reared in great plenty. A gooſe ſells at 1 s. 6 d.; a good hen at 6 d.; a chicken at 3 d.; and a dozen of eggs at 2 d. In winter the iſland is viſited by the ſwan and woodcock; in ſummer by the ſwallow, corncraik (or cornrail), and cuckoo. The other birds frequenting it are, wild geeſe, ducks, and all the ſpecies of ſea fowl common on the weſt coaſt: Pigeons, plovers, ravens, hooded crows, ſtarlings, ſparrow hawks, and

jack-daws are very numerous. Of the laſt there are two kinds; one with a dark blue head, all the reſt black; another with red feet, having the body and head black.

Waters.—Though there are neither lakes nor rivers in Gigha, it abounds with excellent water, every farm having one or more ſpring wells in it. On the weſt ſide of the iſland, two good mills are ſupplied, all winter and ſpring, with water collected into a pond from ſpring wells; but in ſummer, the pond is made dry for the purpoſe of cutting peats.—There is a tradition that the country was once nearly depopulated by a plague, all the people dying except thoſe of one farm, called *Ardacha'*, or *High Field*, where there is a ſpring of water, to the virtue of which was attributed their ſafety. The water of this well is ſtill reckoned very ſalubrious, though it has nothing peculiar in taſte or colour *.

Caves.—

* It would be unpardonable on this ſubject not to mention the Well of *Tarbat*, called *Tobar-rath Bhuathaig*, *i. e.* the *lucky well of Beathag*; a well famous for having the command of the wind. It is ſituated at the foot of a hill fronting the N. E. near an iſthmus called Tarbat. Six feet above where the water guſhes out, there is a heap of ſtones, which forms a cover to the ſacred fount. When a perſon wiſhed for a fair wind, either to leave the iſland, or to bring home his abſent friends, this part was opened with great ſolemnity, the ſtones carefully removed, and the well cleaned with a wooden diſh or clam ſhell. This being done, the water was ſeveral times thrown in the direction (or art), from which the wiſhed for wind was to blow, and this action accompanied with a certain form of words, which the perſon repeated every time he threw the water. When the ceremeny was over, the well was again carefully ſhut up to prevent fatal conſequences; it being firmly believed, that, were the place left open, it would occaſion a ſtorm, which would overwhelm the whole iſland. This ceremony of *cleaning the well*, as it is called, is now ſeldom or never performed; though ſtill there are two old women, of the names Galbreath and Graham, who are ſaid to have the ſecret, but who have cauſe to lament the *infidelity of the age*, as they derive little emolument from their profeſſion.

N. B. One of the men, who wrought at Carn Ban, ſays, that, being ſummer time, there was an intolerable ſtench, on opening theſe graves, which obliged them to drink ſpirits, and keep always on the windward ſide; and that, when they omitted theſe precautions, they had violent headachs: That the inſide of the coffins were covered with a black kind of duſt, whence iſſued the offenſive ſmell: But that they never ſuſpected it had been a burying place, till they found the bones and urns. The whole cairn was full of coffins, ſome large and ſome ſmall. On the bottom of the coffin opened by Mr. WILLIAM FRASER, there was a ſtratum of dark duſt, about 3 or 4 inches deep; and the ſides and cover were of the ſame colour; but there was no offenſive ſmell, the weather being froſty when it was opened.

EXPLANATION of the PLATE, fronting page 53.

FIG. I.

Section of UAIGH MHOR, near ARDOCHAD, in GIGHA. *See page 53.*

FIG. II.

HANGING ROCKS at the entrance of UAICH MHOR.

FIG. III.

Section of UAIGH NA'N COLAMAN. *See page 53.*

FIG. IV.

Section of SLOCHD AN LE'M. *See page 54.*

N. B. Theſe ſections are intended to ſhew the ſhape or figure of the places; but the proportions cannot be exact, for want of compaſſes and other inſtruments.

FIG. V.

Section of SLOC AN TSHRANNAN. *See the note, page 54.*

FIG. VI.

CARN BAN. *See page 55, and the firſt note, page 56.*

1. Coffin, where the bones are covered.

2. Coffin, opened January 2. 1792, and cloſed again. Nothing found in it.

3. 4. Open coffins, the covers being broken by the people. In theſe the urns were found.

5. Small coffins.

6. A flag, but no coffin.

N. B.

Fig. V.

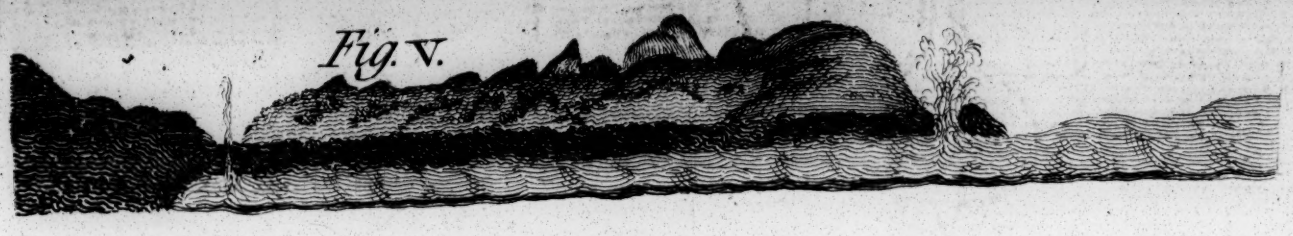


Fig II



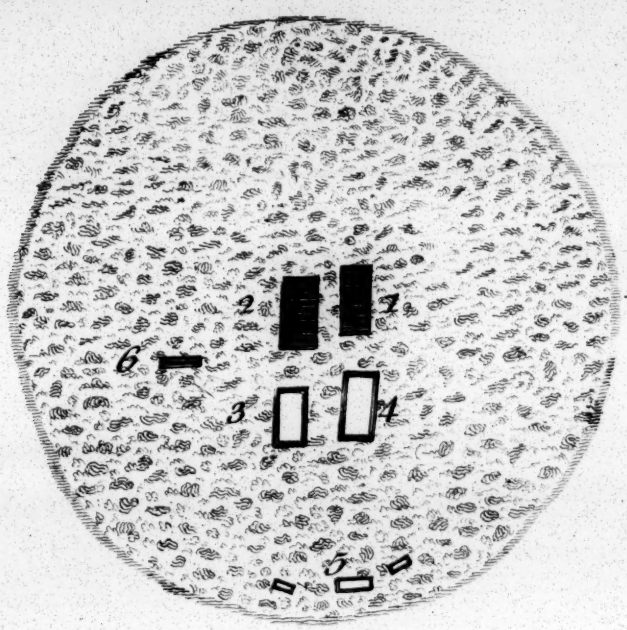
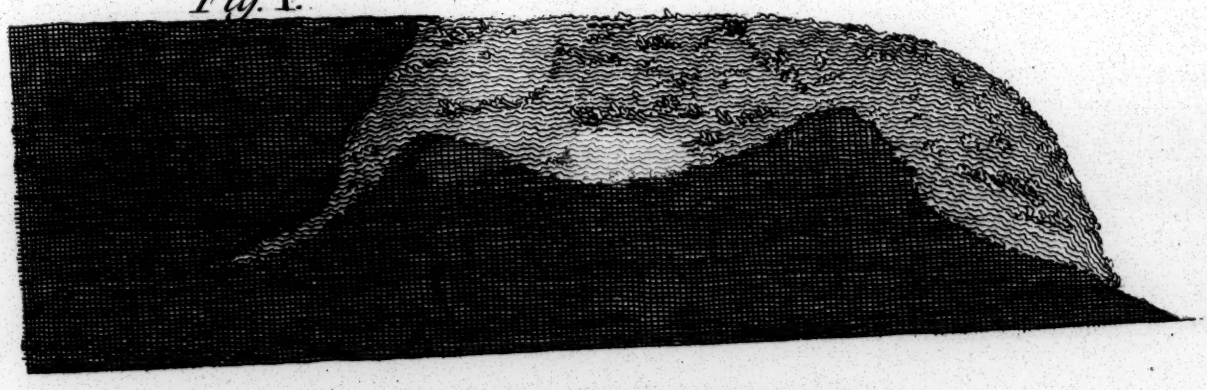


Fig. VI.

Fig. I.



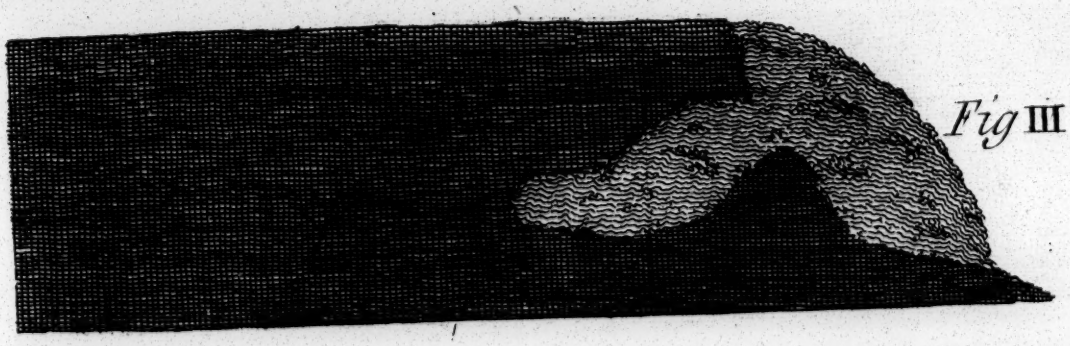
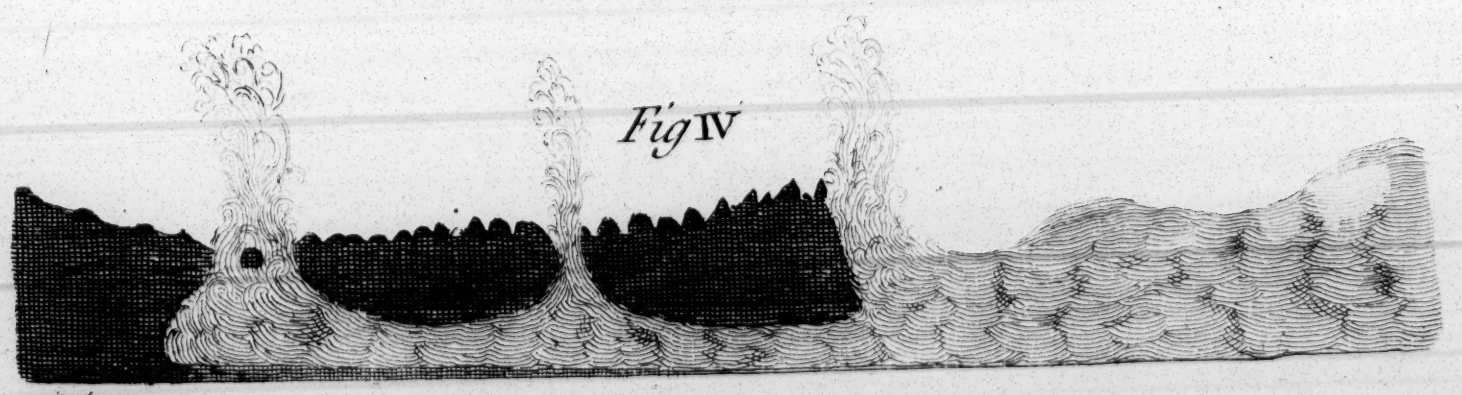
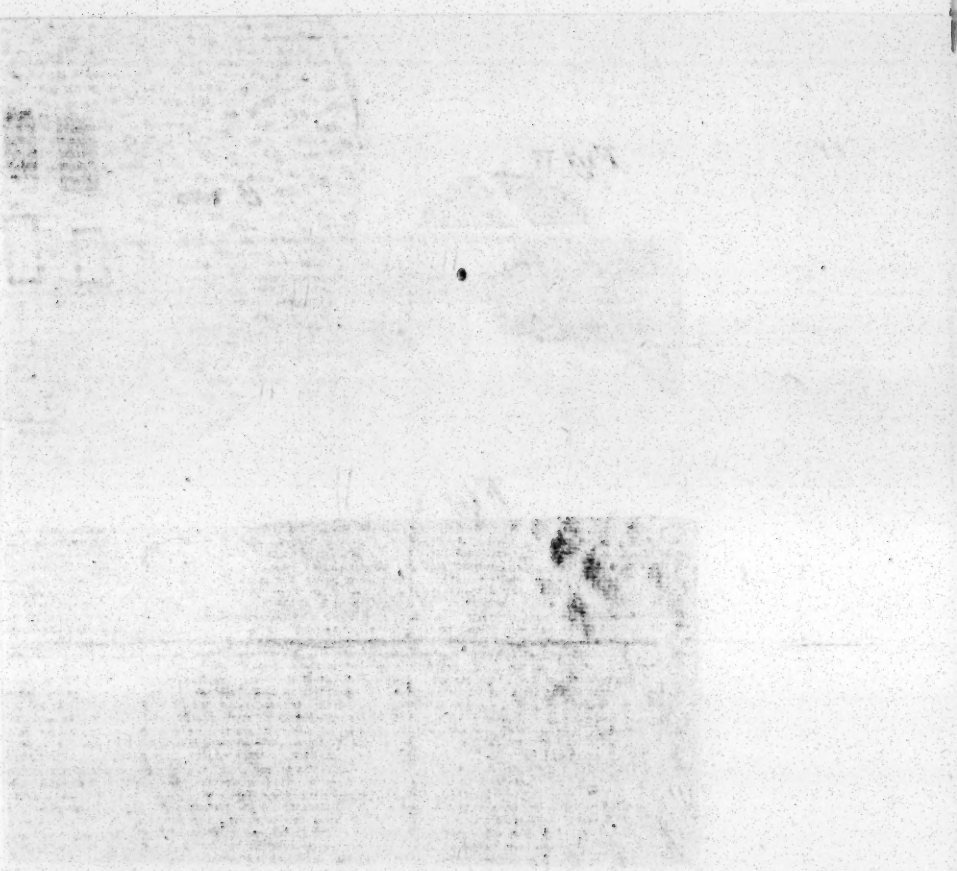


Fig III

Fig IV





Caves.—There are ſeveral caves: The moſt remarkable are two on the weſt ſide of the iſland near the farm of Ardacha'.—One of them, called *Uaigh Mhor*, or the *Large Cave*, was originally 190 feet long. At preſent there is only a part of it covered, but ſo filled up with earth and ſtones that it is difficult to get into it. This part is 86 feet long, and the reſt (which is 104), forms a grand entrance to it, by a hanging rock on the north ſide, 70 feet high, and by another riſing parallel to it, on the ſouth ſide, equally high *.—At a ſmall diſtance ſouth of this, is *Uaigh-na'n Colaman*, or *Pigeon's Cave*, (from theſe birds neſtling there). It is about 70 feet long, 30 broad, and 40 high. The end, which, like the other cave, is narrow and dark, is adorned with a beautiful coating of ſpar, which runs down along the ſide in large veins, and ſometimes in perpendicular tubes. The water which oozes through this ſubſtance, and which forms drops of different magnitudes, according to the pores and diameters of the different veins and tubes, has a beautiful appearance with candle light. Here are ſome plants reckoned uſeful in certain complaints; particularly *cneam-na-muc-ſia*, *i. e. wild boar's garlic* †, which is uſed in ſtomach complaints. Its leaf is beautiful and long, hanging down from the ſide of the cave. On the 4th of January, when theſe caves were examined, vegetation was ſo ſtrong, that the different plants appeared perfectly freſh and vigorous.—At the ſouth end of the iſland, there is a ſubterraneous paſſage 133 feet long, into which the ſea runs. About the middle there is an aperture 8 feet long and 2 broad Near the end there is another, 20 feet long and 4 broad. Round this aperture are large pieces of rock; one of which having fallen in, and being jammed between the ſides, divides it into *two*, and forms a convenient reſting place for taking

* See the plate.

† Or *Hart's Tongue*, according to Mr. Shaw's Dictionary.

taking the depth of the chaſm, which is here 22 feet, in the middle 32, and at the mouth about 40. When there is a ſurf, a perpetual miſt iſſues from theſe apertures, accompanied with a tremendous noiſe, which is occaſioned by the rolling of large ſtones, or fragments of the rock that have fallen in, and are conſtantly kept in motion by the agitation of the water. In time of a weſterly ſtorm, being expoſed to the great ſwells from the Atlantic ocean, the ſea ruſhes in with ſuch violence as to diſcharge itſelf through theſe openings with a thundering noiſe, riſing to an immenſe height, in the form of intermitting jetts. Hence its name *Sloc'-an-Leim*, or *Squirting Cave*, literally *Jumping Pit*. The mouth of this cave is only to be ſeen at low water; and the channel leading to it extends more than 70 feet; ſo that the whole length is upwards of 200 feet *.

Cairns and Hills.—Within a few yards of Sloc-an-Leim there is a rock, detached from the reſt, 36 feet high, 46 long, and 34 broad on the top; it was ſurrounded with a dry ſtone-wall, and is called *Carn Leim*, from its vicinity to the chaſm already mentioned. The country people ſay it was a beacon for directing veſſels into the harbour of Gigulum ſound. About the centre of the iſland is *Dun Chiſi*, or *Keeſie's Hill*, which

* North from this at a ſmall diſtance is another ſubterraneous paſſage, called *Sloc-an-Tſhbrannan* (pronounced *Slok-an-tranan*), *i. e. Snoring Pit*, from the kind of noiſe it makes. It is about 36 feet long, and the channel which leads to it more than 40. At the end there is a very ſmall opening (not half an inch wide), about which there is a quantity of water always lodged. The condenſed air below is forced up by every ſwell through the ſmall opening, and occaſions that bubbling noiſe in the water, which has occaſioned the name. At the mouth of this chaſm, where the channel is 17 feet deep, there is a large piece of rock lying acroſs, which occaſions a jett here, and the ſmall perforation at the end ſquirts alſo in time of ſtorm; ſo that it is in minature the ſame as Sloc-an-Leim.—To the eaſt of theſe chaſms there is an appearance of copper ore.

which appears to have been a ſtrong fortification. On the N. W., N. and N. E. ſides, there is a ſteep aſcent from 40 to 80 feet. At the top of this aſcent, there is a perpendicular rock from 24 to 37 feet high; the reſt is incloſed with a dry ſtone wall, 9 feet thick, and from 8 to 10 feet high. On the eaſt ſide there is a ſteep aſcent of 38 feet, (ſeemingly cut out of the rock), leading to the gate, which is four feet wide. In the middle of this Dūn there is an elevation, which commands a view of the place on all ſides, and of the country round. It is 120 feet long, and 67 broad. Tradition ſays that Keeſie, the King of Lochlin's ſon, who occupied this ſtrong hold, was killed there by Diarmad, one of Fingal's heroes, with whoſe wife he had run away. Within ſight of Dūn Chiſi, about a mile N. E. there is another beautiful little hill, ſurrounded with a dry ſtone wall, and riſing in a valley, which happens to be marſhy, whence it has its name, *Dunan-an-Tsheaſguin*, (pronounced *Dunan an teaſguin*), i. e. the little hill in the marſh. It is a ſteep rocky aſcent, 95 feet long, 55 broad, and 36 high, but level on the top. The gate fronts Dūn Chiſi, is 4 feet wide, and the wall 9 feet thick*. At the northern extremity of the iſland, on the top of a hill, there is a circular heap of ſtones, called *Carn-na-faire*, or *Watch Cairn*, 53 feet diameter. It ſeems to have been a place of ſome ſtrength, and intended, as the name implies, to give the alarm in caſe of an invaſion, for it commands a very extenſive view of the ſea from S. W. by N. to S. E. About half an Engliſh mile ſouth of *Carn-na-faire*, on a plain near the ſhore, is *Carn-*

* North-weſt from Dun Chiſi, about the ſame diſtance, and within ſight of it, there is a peninſula, which was ſtrongly fortified, and was probably occupied by the ſame people, to ſecure their landing or retreat. It is called *Tris* by the inhabitants, which is a corruption of the word *Trench*. At a farm called *Druim-a-Chro*, there is a beautiful earthen mount, 43 feet long, and 41 broad on the top. The ſides are a ſteep aſcent, from 24 to 33 feet. The name and intention of it are equally unknown.

Carn-Bān or *White Cairn**. It is alſo circular, and meaſures 50 feet in diameter. From the ſituation of the place, the convenience of landing, and its vicinity to *Carn-na-faire*, it is likely that there was an engagement near it, and that the bodies of the ſlain were buried under the cairn. South weſt of Cārn Bān, at a narrow part of the iſland, called Tarbat, there is a large ſtone on end, known by the name of *Cārr-an-Tarbart*, or *the Pillar of Tarbat*†. It is near 8 feet high, and, from its inclined poſition, cannot be leſs than 3 feet under ground to prevent its falling. It was probably ſet up to mark the grave of ſome warrior. The common burying place in the iſland, is called *Cill Chattan*, pronounced *Kill χατταν*) i. e. Cattan's grave, or burying ground. Here are the ruins of an old chapel, 33 feet long, 14½ broad. At the eaſt end, there is a long narrow window, in the ſole of which lies a ſtone font, neatly cut in an octagonal ſhape, and perforated in the

* Three years ago ſeveral ſtone coffins were diſcovered there, by dyke-builders. On opening them they found ſome urns, one of which is in Mr. Macneill of Gigha's poſſeſſion, and meaſures (on the outſide) 5¼ inches in diameter at top, 2 at the bottom, and 5¼ in height, made of clay, hard burnt, and in colour blackiſh. The coffins, of which there are 4 in the middle of the cairn, are made up of 4 large flags, forming the bottom, ſides and cover of each, with a ſmall flag at each end. They lie ſouth and north, and meaſure about 5 feet in length, 2½ in breadth, and 1½ in depth. Two of theſe coffins are covered, in one of which are human bones. Beſides the large coffin, there were ſeveral ſmall ones, of which there is only one left entire. It is 3 feet long, 1½ broad, and 1 deep.

† Any neck of land or iſthmus, where boats can be drawn over from one ſide to the other, is called *Tarbat*, from the two Gaelic words *tarruin*, to draw, and *Bat*, a boat. It is commonly pronounced in Gaelic with an *r* in the laſt ſyllable as well as in the firſt, (i. e.) Tarbart. Near the farm houſes of Tarbat there is an old burying place, where there is a croſs, with one of the arms and part of the top broken. It is neatly cut, and meaſures 6 feet in length, 10 inches in breadth, and 5 inches in thickneſs. The place is called *Righ Chaibeal*, i. e. the *Kings Chapel*, or Tomb.

the centre. It is 2 feet diameter without, and 1½ within, 8 inches deep, and the bottom is 4 inches thick. Near this chapel is *Achadh-a-Charra*, (pronounced Aχα-χαɾɾα) i. e. the field of the pillar, ſo called from a beautiful plain ſtone, which ſtands in the middle of the field, within 140 yards of the chapel. It inclines to the S. W. is 14½ feet high, 3 feet broad, and 8 inches thick at the edges. To ſupport its weight, it muſt be 3 feet, at leaſt, under ground.*

CARA.

Sea Coaſt and Birds.—The ſhore of this iſland is high and rocky, except at the N. E. end, where the landing place is. The ſouth end, called the Maoil of Cara*, which is the higheſt part of the iſland, is a perpendicular rock, meaſuring 117 feet in height. From the ſhore to the foundation of this rock there is a ſteep aſcent equal to 50 feet perpendicular, which makes the whole height 167 feet. Here all the different ſpecies of ſea-fowl neſtle in May, which, added to the grand appearance of the rock, forms a delightful view of the ſea; and on approaching it, the ear is no leſs gratified than the eye. The number and variety of notes, which the appearance of any viſitor occaſions among the birds, together with the mur-

* North-eaſt of this, at an equal diſtance from the chapel, is *Cnoc-a-Charra*, or the hill of the pillar. On the top of this hill there is another ſtone, 9 feet long, and 3 feet 10 inches in circumference; of the 9 feet, 2 are in the ground. Still farther to the N. E. on a higher hill, there was a croſs which fell ſome years ſince, and was broken; the 3 ſtones were in a ſtraight line, but whether they directed to any particular object, or were intended as monuments of the dead, cannot be aſcertained.

† *Maol* adj. ſignifies *bare* or *bald*, as *Ceann maol*, *bald-head*. Hence it is applied to expoſed points of land or promontories, and then becomes a ſubſtantive noun, and is written maoil e. g. *maoil* of Kintyre, *maoil* of Galloway, *maoil* of Cara, &c.

mur of the ſea and the echo of the rocks, form a concert by no means diſagreeable. The *real* game hawk is ſaid to neſtle here. This rock has a great deal of iron ore in it; and in one place, which was ſtruck with lightning ſeveral years ago, large pieces were thrown down, which ſeemed to be a mixture of copper and iron.*

Caves, Soil, &c.—Cloſe by this part of the Maoil, there is a cave 40 feet long, 5 broad, and 5 high†. At the end there is a ſmall opening which communicates with another cave, meaſuring 37 feet in length, 9 in breadth, and 9 in height. This cave is open at the ſide, which admits a good deal of light, and from the top ſtreams of clear water fall down. The ſame kind of plants grow here as in the caves of Gigha. The N. E. end abounds with rabbits, where the ſoil is a mixture of ſhells, ſand, and earth. The reſt of the iſland is moſſy, and the greater part might be cultivated, but it is found more profitable to keep it for paſture. There is enough of peats for the inhabitants, and care is taken in cutting them to preſerve the

* A perſon who has lived above 36 years in the iſland, ſays, that the rock fell in Autumn 1756: That the night on which it happened, there was a dreadful hurricane, accompanied with thunder and lightning: That the noiſe of the rock falling was heard, and the ſhock felt, in their houſes: That the ſea roſe ſo high againſt the rocks on the weſt ſide of the iſland, as to be carried over the whole breadth of it in heavy ſhowers: That the houſes were all unroofed, and the ſtacks of corn overſet; and that all the people were obliged to extinguiſh their fires, and take ſhelter in the only ſlated houſe on the iſland, which fortunately ſuffered no damage.

† A parcel of goats, belonging to the tackſman of the iſland, conſider this cave as their inviolable place of reſidence, and diſcover no ſmall ſurpriſe when ſtrangers viſit them. The appearance of theſe animals, ſometimes running in the face of the precipice, and ſometimes looking down from the higheſt pinnacle of the rock, occaſions in the ſpectator's breaſt a mixture of pleaſure and pain, which is more eaſily felt than deſcribed.

the ſurface, and lay it down regularly after the peats are taken away, by which means the paſture ground is not diminiſhed. The tackſman has one plough and one cart. His houſe is ſlated, and conſiſts of two ſtoreys and garrets. It was built 60 years ago, and is ſtill in tolerable good condition. Adjoining to the houſe there is an old chapel, (26 feet long, and proportionally broad) with a Gothick arched door on the north ſide. This was formerly a burying place, and is now converted into a *kitchen*. Wild ſpinage and water creſſes abound here, as well as in Gigha.

Gigha and Cara.

Population.—All the inhabitants of both iſlands are Proteſtants of the eſtabliſhed church of Scotland. The majority of them are of the names of Galbreath and M'Neill. The former are reckoned the more ancient, and ſaid to have been originally a tall race of men. At preſent there is nothing uncommon in their ſtature. Tradition ſays, that there never was an inſtance of a ſhipwreck where three of them were aboard. The *Galbreaths* *, in the Gaelic language, are called *Breatanuich*, or *Clann a Bhreatanuich*, *i. e. Britons*, or the *Children of the Briton*, and were once reckoned a great name in Scotland, according to the following lines:

" Breatanuich, o'n *Talla dhearg* †
" Uailſe fir Alba do Shloinneadh.

That is, " Galbreaths from the *Red Tower* †
" Nobleſt of Scottiſh ſirnames."

The

* Galbreath is a corruption of two Gaelic words *Gall Bhreatan*, *i. e.* the *Strange Briton*, or *Low Country Briton*.

† This *Talla dhearg*, or *Red Tower*, is probably *Dumbarton* (in Gaelic *Dun-Bhreatain*, *i. e.* the *Hill of the Britons*, whence, it is ſaid, the firſt Galbreaths came to Gigha.

The population of both iſlands has increaſed nearly one ſixth within theſe 40 years. By a liſt made out in January 1792, the number of ſouls was found to be 614, which is exactly 100 more, than the return to Dr. Webſter in 1755. Of this increaſe, nearly one half has taken place within the laſt 5 years, as by an enumeration taken in 1787, the number was 572, which makes an increaſe of 42, or above 8 *per annum* within that period. The following tables will exhibit a view of the different ſexes, ages, conditions and profeſſions of the people in both iſlands.

TABLE I. *Shewing the proportion of the Sexes.*

	Males.	Females.	Total.	Majority.
In Gigha, -	304	288	592	16 males.
In Cara, -	11	11	22	0
Total, -	315	299	614	16

TABLE II *. *Proportion of Single and Married People.*

In Gigha. Cara. Pariſh.		In Gigha. Cara. Pariſh.	
Males, -	304+11=315	Females, -	288+11=299
Married, -	82+ 3= 85	Married, -	82+ 3= 85
Unmarried,	222+ 8=230	Unmarried,	206+ 8=214
Widowers, -	7+ 1= 8	Widows, -	31+ 0= 31
Single, -	215+ 7=222	Single, -	175+ 8=183

TABLE

* *Add the ſingle of both ſexes in this table, and ſubſtract all under 20 years in the following table; the remainder is the number fit for marriage, excluding widowers and widows: e.g.*

	M.	*F.*	*M.&F.*
Single, - - - -	222+	183=	405
Under 20 years, - - -	159+	149=	308
Number of males and females fit for marriage, -			97

TABLE III. *Ages of the Inhabitants.*

	Inhabitants of Gig. Cara. Pariſh.
Under 10 years of age, -	148+11=159
Between 10 and 20, -	146+ 3=149
——— 20 and 50, -	199+ 7=206
——— 50 and 70, -	83+ 1= 84
——— 70 and 84, -	16+ 0= 16
Total, -	592+22=614

TABLE IV. *Proportion of Children, Families and Farms.*

	Gig. Ca. Par. Children.	
Children *, -	351+12=363	
	———	= 3 average number in each family.
Heads of Families, -	104+ 3=107	
Children (as above),	351+22=363	
	———	=22 average number in each farm.
Number of farms, -	15+ 1= 16	

TABLE V. *Number of Births, Marriages and Deaths.*

Years.	Births.	Marriages.	Deaths†.
1787	16	3	
1788	17	3	
1789	24	3	
1790	24	4	
1791	24	4	
Total, -	105	17	52
Annual average, -	21	3	10

TABLE

* *The difference of the children's ages, in every family, is two years, with very few exceptions.—There are three inſtances of twins in theſe iſlands.*

† *There is no regiſter of deaths kept in the pariſh, but the number of grown up people who died in the courſe of the laſt 5 years, is 26, of whom 6 were drowned. The number of children who died within the ſame period is alſo 26; in all 52.*

TABLE VI. *Profeſſions of the Inhabitants* *.

	In Gigha.		Cara.		In the whole pariſh.
Farmers, -	26	+	1	=	27
Crofters†, -	20	+	0	=	20
Cottagers†, -	51	+	2	=	53

Fiſhermen ‡.

At the herring fiſhing laſt ſeaſon on the coaſt of Ireland, -	16
At ditto on the North Highland coaſt, about - -	44
Sailors aboard the navy laſt war, - - - - -	5

Handycraftſmen.

* There is no phyſician, ſurgeon, or apothecary in the pariſh, nor any to be got nearer than Campbeltown. Although theſe two iſlands are uncommonly healthy, and free from epidemical diſorders, yet the want of a ſurgeon is ſometimes felt in accidental caſes. Medical aſſiſtance, is the only thing wanting, to render the iſland of *Gigha*, a moſt agreeable place to reſide in. As there are good harbours and landing places on the eaſt ſide of the iſland, there is eaſy acceſs to it at all times, but the want of a quay, and proper accommodation on the mainland oppoſite to it, (as formerly taken notice of,) renders the communication difficult in the winter ſeaſon. Were this inconvenience removed, the other would be leſs felt, as medical aid, in urgent caſes, could at any time be got from Campbeltown. The winter, however, is ſo mild, that there is almoſt a conſtant vegetation; and in ſummer the beautiful ſituation of the place, the ſalubrity of air, and the variety of creeks and ſandy bays, render it one of the fineſt bathing places in the Weſt Highlands.

†† A crofter has a plot of ground, for rearing a ſmall crop and keeping a milk cow, and pays a yearly rent according to the value and extent of the ground. A cottager has only a houſe, garden and potatoe ground, for which he pays a ſmall rent.

‡ Thoſe employed at the herring fiſhing, receive from a guinea to 30 s. *per* month for wages. The number of veſſels and ſmall boats belonging to both iſlands is as follows: 6 ſloops, from 8 to 15 tons burden; 1 ditto of 44 tons; 1 ditto of 69; 1 ditto of 74 regiſtered tonnage; and 24 ſmall boats.

Handycraftſmen &c. *

Weavers, -	5	Boat Carpenters, -	2
Apprentices, -	3	Maſons, -	1
Taylors, -	4	Diſtillers, -	1
Shoemakers, -	2	Inn-keepers, -	2
Millers, -	1	Fiddlers, -	1
Blackſmiths, -	1	Pipers, -	2

Proprietors and Rent.—The iſland and barony of Gigha, conſiſting of 30 merk land of old extent, holds of the Duke of Argyll for the yearly payment of 400 merks Scotch of feu-duty; five-ſixths of the iſland, (including the farm of Aird-glamy, which pays a feu-duty to Mr. M'Neill, who has an intermediate ſuperiority over it) belong to Mr. M'Neill of Gigha, and the remaining ſixth to Mr. M'Neill of Gallachoillie. The valued rent of the whole is 127l. 5s. 1d. Sterling. The real rent cannot exactly be aſcertained, as there is a part of the lands in the proprietor's hands, but it is believed it may be above 700l. The iſland of Cara is the property of Mr. M'Donald of Leargie, and is occupied as a farm by one man. The valued rent is 6l. 10s. 5d. Sterling; the real rent, including public burdens, 35l. Sterling.

Eccleſiaſtical State.—Gigha and Cara are ſaid to have been a part of the pariſh of Jura and Colonſay, and alſo of the pariſh

* The common wages of men labourers are 8d. a day, ſummer and winter. A ploughman is hired from December to the end of May, at 2l. 10s. beſides two pair of ſhoes, planting of two pecks of potatoes, ſowing of a pint of flax-ſeed, and maintenance. A man ſervant is hired from the latter end of Auguſt till the harveſt is finiſhed at about 2l. 15s. with a pair of ſhoes and his maintenance; a maid ſervant for the ſame time gets 1l. 10s. with ſhoes and maintenance; common men ſervants are hired at the rate of 4l. 10s. a year, and maintained; maid ſervants at 2l. 10s. with maintenance, ſhoes, and flax-ſeed ſowing; herd boys from 15s. to 20s.; a taylor works for 8d. a day, and maintenance; a ſhoemaker gets 1s. for making a pair of ſhoes in his own houſe, and 6d. when maintained.

riſh of Killearn, in Kintyre; but when they were disjoined from either is uncertain. The ſtipend is paid partly in victual and partly in money, viz. 20 bolls of barley, 40 bolls of meal, and 35 l. Sterling in money, beſides a glebe, and allowance for a manſe. There is a good church, but no manſe, the late incumbent having been tranſlated to another pariſh at the time it was to have been built. The pariſh is vacant at preſent, by the tranſlation of Mr. Dugald M'Dougal to the pariſh of Lochgoilhead*. The Duke of Argyll and Mr M'Neill of Gigha are patrons.

School and Poor.—The number of children at ſchool is 55 boys and 10 girls, in all 65. Moſt of them are taught gratis; 8 of them are learning arithmetic, 32 reading Engliſh, and the reſt beginners. The ſchoolmaſter has a free houſe, garden, and cows graſs, with 100 merks ſalary from the pariſh, and he gets 7 l. Sterling from the Society for propagating Chriſtian Knowledge. Of the inhabitants there are 3 lame, 3 blind, 4 ſickly, and 1 an idiot. Theſe, with a few old infirm perſons, are on the poors liſt, and get as much help from the ſeſſion as the funds admit of; but they are chiefly ſupported by the reſiding heritor and the inhabitants. The collection at the church

* Mr. M'Dougal was admitted in October 1784; and on giving in his diſmiſſion in November 1789, Mr. Samuel Peat, a native of the Low Country, was preſented to the pariſh. This gentleman, not ſubmitting to be examined by the preſbytery of Kintyre on the Gaelic language, a piece of trial which they thought neceſſary before his admiſſion to a Highland charge; and appealing from them to the ſynod of Argyll, and afterwards from the ſynod to the General Aſſembly; it was found requiſite, that an ordained clergyman ſhould be appointed in the meantime, to ſupply the pariſh, as their inſular ſituation rendered it peculiarly hard to be ſo long without a miniſter to diſpenſe the ordinances of religion among them. Accordingly, in October laſt (1791), the writer of this report came to this iſland, where he continues to officiate as interim miniſter, with a ſalary of 40 l. a year from the ſynod of Argyll.

church does not amount to much yearly, and therefore is not an adequate fund for the ſupport of the poor*.

Language.—The language of the common people is Gaelic, but not reckoned the pureſt, on account of their vicinity to Ireland, and intercourſe with the low country, by which many corruptions have been introduced into their phraſeology. They underſtand Engliſh, and ſeveral ſpeak it well enough to tranſact buſineſs; but very few of them can underſtand a connected diſcourſe in that language. It may not be improper here to obſerve, that in *Gaelic* the letters *C* and *G* ſound always hard; *ch* like the Greek *χ*; *bh*, and *mh* like *v*; *dh* and *gh* like *y*, in the beginning of a word. By attending to this, one who is a ſtranger to the Gaelic language, can more eaſily underſtand what follows, as well as what was formerly obſerved reſpecting the origin of the name of Gigha. Moſt of the other names are alſo Gaelic, and compounded of ſome of the following words, which are expreſſive of the nature, ſituation, or appearance of the places.

Ach', Achă', or Achădh, a field, as *Acha' mŏr*, large field.
Ard, High; as *Ard Achădh*, high field.
Aird, Height; as *Aird Glamie*, i. e. Height Point, or promontory of *Glamie*, from a rock called Glamie.
Ceann, Head; as *Ceann tire*, i. e. Head land, now corrupted into *Kintyre*.

* During the ſcarcity in 1782-3, barley meal ſold at 1s. 6d. the peck (10lb. dutch weight). Oat-meal was very ſcarce, and while it laſted ſold at 2s. Potatoes at 1s. the peck. With the help of their fiſh and milk they were better off than the people on the main land, and bought little. Though the grain was poorer that year than uſual, there would have been no ſcarcity of meal, had the farmers kept all their barley; but before they were aware of the ſcarcity of proviſions, they malted and ſold off a great part of it. They were, however, very favourably dealt with by the proprietors, as well as the poor in general.

Ceann-ear-thir-each, pronounced Kēān-ĕr-ĭr-ăch, i. e. *Eaſt-Head-land*, the N. E. end of Gigha, ſo called.

Cārn, heap of ſtones.

Cārr, Carradh, a pillar or one ſtone on end.

Inflected caſe, *Charra*.

Cnŏc or Cnŏchd, a hill not fortified. *Cnŏc-a-Charra*, Hill of the pillar. *Cnōchd-na-Croich*, Croſs-hill.

Crō, a ſmall incloſure, a park.

Druīm, back ridge of a hill. *Druim Chro*, the height or ridge of incloſures (or of parks).

Dūn, a fortified hill, and Dūnan, a little fortified hill.

Făire, a watch; as *Cārn-na-Făire*, watch cairn.

Garbh, (garv) rough, rugged. *Garbh-Eilean*, rough iſland; 2 peninſulas ſo called, and very expreſſive of their appearance and ſurface.

Meadhan, middle, pronounced (mēa'-ān).

Nes-Nis, (Daniſh) a point going out in the ſea.

Aird-meadhan-nis, the name of a place near the middle of the iſland, where there is a riſing ground, oppoſite to which there is a neſs, or point, that runs out about a mile N. E. into the ſea.

Tōrr, a tower or a heap of ſtones.

Tr, a tower

Ard-tūr-nis, High Tower Point.

Ua'-Uaigh, a cave or a grave,

Sloc-Slochd, a chaſm or pit.

Seaſg, bog-reed, hence *Seaſg'onn*, a marſh, compounded of *Seaſg*, reed, and *fonn*, land.

Gigulum, origin unknown.

View.—Nothing can exceed the view from Gigha in variety or grandeur. On the E. the fertile coaſt of Kintyre (overtopped in ſome places by the hills of Arran and Cowal), terminates

minates the proſpect; on the S. the Maoil of Kintyre and the coaſt of Ireland, extending (paſt Bathlin) to the point of Derry; on the W. the iſland of Ilay and the main ocean; and on the N. the iſlands of Jura, Scarba, Dana, and the coaſt of Knapdale, with the hills of Mull appearing behind. The pleaſure ariſing from this view is greatly heightened, by the number and variety of ſhips and ſmall veſſels, which conſtantly ſail in different directions, and at different diſtances. And in ſtormy, dark weather, when deprived of this enchanting proſpect, the loſs is amply made up to the admirer of nature, by obſerving the raging ocean diſcharge its fury againſt the rock, whilſt "liſt'ning with pleaſing dread to its deep roar."

Character.—The people are honeſt and inoffenſive, willing to oblige, and ready, by every exertion, to relieve the diſtreſs of ſeafaring men. They are, upon the whole, in a thriving condition, content with their ſituation, and greatly attached to their native country. The ſuppreſſion of private ſtills, (which are as unfriendly to the induſtry and morals of a people, as they are pernicious to their health), has been attended with happy effects. They are now leſs addicted to *dram-drinking*, and more attentive to their buſineſs; though ſtill they are not ſo induſtrious as could be wiſhed. This, however, is owing to cauſes, which it is not in their power wholly to remove.

Diſadvantages.—Diviſion of labour, which is the higheſt improvement in ſociety, has not yet been carried ſuch a length, as to entitle the people of Gigha to the character of being induſtrious. The farmer, accuſtomed to a certain mode of labouring for the ſupport of his family, never attempts any greater exertion, while this object is accompliſhed. There is no market at hand, where ready money can be got for the produce of the ground; and therefore no incitement to raiſe

a greater quantity, than ſerves for family conſumption and payment of the rent. Thus, every perſon endeavours to ſupply himſelf; and as he does not receive ready money for the produce of his own labour, he cannot advance it for that of others. Hence he cannot apply his whole attention to his own profeſſion. One part of the day is employed about his farm; another part allotted for the fiſhing, in order to ſupply the immediate wants of the family. In like manner, the ſhoemaker, ſmith, taylor, and other handycraftſmen, cannot beſtow their whole time on their different profeſſions. They have families to ſupport; and their employment is not ſo conſtant, or the returns for their labour ſo punctual, as to enable them to devote their whole time to their reſpective lines of buſineſs. It is neceſſary, therefore, to have a ſpot of ground: this ſpot muſt be attended to; and the poſſeſſor thinks it more for his intereſt to labour it himſelf, than to employ another. Beſides, the fiſhing muſt be attended to, as mentioned above; for no man thinks of making a profeſſion of *fiſhing* which is open to every one: And again, no man will think of purchaſing with money what any one can have by going for it. All theſe circumſtances operate in preventing induſtry and improvement. That this may not appear contradictory, it muſt be obſerved, that the time uſually ſpent, every day, in the intervals between theſe different occupations, is nearly equal to the actual time of labour; and therefore, though it cannot juſtly be ſaid, that they are addicted to idleneſs more than others, it may with propriety be affirmed, that they are not induſtrious. In this ſenſe, all the inhabitants of the Weſtern Iſles, being in ſimilar circumſtances, are chargeable with want of induſtry. And people who are not well acquainted with their peculiar ſituation, and who form an opinion of their character, in this reſpect, by a compariſon with the inhabitants of the Low Country, may raſhly

conclude

conclude, that it is natural for them to be lazy and indolent. But nothing can be more unfair than to judge of them in this way, by a compariſon with people accuſtomed all their life to a proper diviſion of labour, and regular markets for vending and purchaſing the produce of their induſtry. Therefore, the reaſons commonly aſſigned for their inactivity are quite erroneous. It is not a natural diſpoſition to be idle, but the want of encouragement and regular employment, that checks the induſtry of the Highlanders. It is well known, that, when habituated to any line of life, they are found careful, active and enterpriſing.

Propoſed Improvements.—Were the labour and iuduſtry of ſuch a number of able men, as are in the Highlands and Iſlands of Scotland, properly directed and encouraged, the effects, would, in a ſhort time, be ſenſibly felt by the nation at large. The moſt valuable diſcoveries might be made; inexhauſtible magazines and materials for every branch of manufacture might be found out; and the exertions and inventions of a great part of the kingdom, which are now lying dormant, might, happily for themſelves and ſociety, be thus brought into action. The moſt effectual means of bringing about ſuch a change ſeems to be, the leſſening and regulating the preſent duties on ſalt and coals; the erection of towns or villages; and opening canals. The attempts that have already been made in erecting villages, will certainly be attended with good effects; and if the number were increaſed, theſe good effects would be multiplied. By a canal through the iſthmus at Crianan, the navigation between the Weſtern Iſles and Clyde would be rendered ſafe, eaſy, and expeditious, at all ſeaſons of the year. By another canal between Inverneſs and Fort William, a direct communication would be opened from the weſt to the eaſt coaſt of Scotland, which would be not

not only of infinite mutual advantage to both these districts of the kingdom, but to the commercial interests of England and Ireland *.—All these plans, if carried into execution, would stir up a spirit of commerce and enterprise, in all the Highlands and Islands of Scotland, which would be soon followed by the introduction of arts and manufactures. Then, every useful hand would find sufficient employment at home; and the idea of property and independence would stimulate to labour and industry. Then, those places, which are now in a great measure considered as of no national consequence, would become the sources of wealth and strength; and instead of appearing as so many barren rocks in the map of our country, would prove some of the brightest ornaments in the crown of Great Britain.

* This, however, could only happen, in case the canal were on such a large scale, as to admit vessels of considerable burthen.

NUMBER IV.

PARISH OF LADYKIRK.

(*County of Berwick—Preſbytery of Chirnſide—Synod of Merſe and Tiviotdale.*)

By the Rev. Mr. Thomas Mill.

Name, Situation, Extent, and Soil.

THE ancient name of this pariſh was *Upſettingtoun*, which James IV. changed to Ladykirk, after having built a handſome church in it, which he dedicated to the Virgin Mary. It was within this church, that the ſupplemental treaty, to that of *Chateau Cambreſis*, was concluded between the Engliſh and Scots Commiſſioners, and the duplicates were exchanged the ſame day at Norham. On Holywell haugh, oppoſite to Norham Caſtle, Edward I. and ſeveral of the Scottiſh nobility met, to ſettle the diſpute betwixt Bruce and Baliol, relative to the ſucceſſion to the Crown of Scotland. This pariſh lies along the banks of the Tweed, is 2¹ miles long and one broad, and contains about 3500 Engliſh ſtatute acres. The country is flat, and interſperſed with a few riſing grounds. The ſoil in general is very good, and conſiſts of a deep loam, in ſome places gravelly, and in others on a clay bottom. It is all capable of bearing good crops, with judicious cultivation: ſome of the outfields were formerly infeſted with whins and ſome heath, both of which have long ago been totally eradicated.

Agriculture.

Agriculture.—The husbandry on both sides of the Tweed, is, in general, conducted with judgment and spirit: To give a particular detail of the practice would much exceed the bounds of this report, but as the tenants in a great measure depend on their live stock, and of course on the condition in which it is kept, they pay very particular attention to their grass lands, and the manner in which they are laid down, as it is found that the grass of land, in high condition, will not only keep a much heavier stock, but will fatten it much sooner, than the grass which we too frequently see growing on good lands, in many parts of the kingdom, under bad management *.

Sheep.—The sheep, in general, are very good, and are of that kind commonly known by the name of the new Leicestershire breed, which were first introduced into Leicestershire by Mr. Bakewell; they are found, in point of profit, far to excel any other kind of sheep in this country. The wedders after having been twice shorn, at 26 months old, or so, weigh from 20 to 28 lb. per quarter: and the ewes, when fattened, from 19 to 26 lb. Three fleeces and a half commonly make a stone

* The grass seeds are sowed with the first crop, after turnips or fallow, instead of the fourth or fifth crop, which was the practice about 30 or 40 years ago; and the succeeding corn crops are taken after the grass is plowed up. By these means there are no corn crops lost; and the grass has the benefit of the fallow and the manure, and throws up great crops, when compared with exhausted lands, which are commonly full of *couch* and other noxious weeds. Harvest generally begins about the 20th of August, and ends in September. The grass lands remain in pasturage from 2 to 5 years, when they are broken up for oats.—The English plough, with the feathered sock, is the only one used here. It is drawn by a pair of horses, and managed by one man. Oxen were formerly more used; but from their inability to drive manure and coals from any distance, and the slowness of their step, they have fallen into disrepute, excepting for home work, which they are exceedingly well calculated to answer.

ſtone of wool, which ſells from 15s. to 18s. per ſtone, and goes into Yorkſhire to be manufactured, excepting a ſmall quantity which is ſent to Aberdeenſhire. This breed of ſheep are uncommonly good feeders, but often do not carry ſo much tallow as many other kinds do, in proportion to their weight. Mr. Culley has undoubtedly the merit of having firſt introduced this breed of ſheep into the country, about 20 years ago or more; and at preſent there are 8 or 9 people in the diſtrict of country betwixt the Cheviot and Lammermuir-hills, whoſe ſheep ſtock are very highly improved. The ſheep of the low part of the country are all of this kind, and are found the more profitable the oftener that they have been croſſed by the beſt breeds. The number of them, as well as of the horſes and black cattle, depends ſo much upon the ſtate of the lands in different years, whether in corn or in paſturage, that it is almoſt impoſſible to give an exact account of them: In general, there may be from 1500 to 2500 ſheep in the pariſh. The ſheep formerly in this country, called *Muggs*, were a tender, ſlow feeding animal, with wool over moſt of their faces, from whence the name of Muggs. There is hardly an individual of this ſpecies now to be met with in the neighbourhood. Mr. Culley's kind of ſheep, on the other hand, have open countenances, without any wool on the face from the ears forward, and are as kindly feeders as the others are ſlow ones. They are neither long bodied, nor long legged, but well made, handſome ſheep, deep in their cheſt, broad at their ſhoulders, loins, and crops, which laſt are thrown well back; and they are deep and broad of their breaſts, which are well ſeen before; and ſtand on well proportioned, clean, ſmall boned legs. Mr. Culley's ſtock is almoſt entirely ſprung from Mr. Bakewell's, as he wiſely perceived that Mr. Bakewell was in the right tract of breeding, long before moſt people would allow it.

Black Cattle and Horſes.—The black cattle here are of the ſhort-horned breed, and from the attention now paid to them, it is probable, that they will be brought to a great degree of perfection. The ſteers of the beſt kind of this breed, when 3 years old, and fat, will weigh from 60 to 75 ſtone (of 14lb. to the ſtone), and if kept to a proper age, will weigh from 85 to 110 ſtone; ſome individuals may even weigh a great deal more. It may, perhaps, be proper to mention, that it is not large ſheep and cattle, that the farmers here wiſh to breed; it is the ſmall, well ſhaped, kindly ſort, that will raiſe moſt money in a given time, from a given quantity of graſs, turnips, or other food. The cows give from 16 to 24 Engliſh quarts of milk in the day; ſome cows may give a great deal more, but ſuch are only exceptions from the major part. When properly fatted, the cows will weigh from 50 to 80 ſtone. There are, in general, from 250 to 300 black cattle, and from 70 to 90 horſes in the pariſh.

Fiſh and Birds, &c.—The river Tweed abounds with ſalmon, trouts, eels, &c. The ſalmon fiſheries let here from 50l. to 100l. a year; nearer Berwick they increaſe very much in value. The ſalmon are all ſent to the London market, where they bring great prices. There is plenty of game, as partridges, hares, &c.; and in the winter, woodcocks, and ſometimes woodpeckers appear. In the ſpring, wild geeſe frequent the country. Gooſanders, wigeons, and cormorants, reſort to the Tweed in ſevere winters, and ſometimes grebes, and ſpeckled divers; and in the lakes there are numbers of mallards and teals.

Population.—The inhabitants have increaſed conſiderably within theſe 40 years. The return to Dr. Webſter in 1755 was only 386. There are now from 580 to 600. Two years ago

ago the number amounted to 534, and it has increaſed conſiderably ſince that period. The people are moſtly employed in huſbandry, in raiſing grain to ſupply leſs fertile countries, and in feeding live ſtock, which are ſent commonly to Newcaſtle, Shields, and Sunderland.

Stipend, Rent, Wages, and Prices of Proviſions.—The miniſter's ſtipend is 800 l. Scotch, or 66 l. 13 s. 4 d. Sterling. The rents of this pariſh are from 14 s. to 30 s. the Engliſh acre. The farms let at from 300 l. to 600 l. a-year, and the tenants are for the moſt part rich and proſperous. A hind's wages are from 14 l. to 16 l. per annum. The price of beef and mutton in this country, after midſummer, is about 3 d. in winter 3½ d. and in the ſpring from 4 d. to 5 d. per lb. but the prices are moſtly regulated by the demands from the Morpeth markets.

NUMBER V.

PARISH OF DOUGLAS.

(*County and Preſbytery of Lanark—Synod of Glaſgow and Air.*)

By the Rev. Mr. WILLIAM M'CUBBIN.

Origin of the Name.

THE account of it given by Mr. Hume of Godſcroft, is, that in the reign of Solvathius king of Scotland, about the year 767, one Donald Bain (*i. e.* the white or fair), aſpired after the crown, gave the king battle, and had almoſt gained the victory, when a certain nobleman, with his ſons and followers, came to the king's aid, and behaved with ſuch courage and reſolution, that Donald's army was defeated, and he himſelf ſlain. The king, anxious to know to whom he was ſo much indebted, and the nobleman being preſent, one of his lieutenants, pointing to him with his finger, ſaid, *Sholto Duglaſſe*, *i. e.* "Behold yonder black grey man." Upon which the king gave him much land, and the ſurname of Douglas, which his poſterity ſtill retain; and from him too, the pariſh, as well as the town, caſtle and river, derive their names. Others ſay, that the river Douglas, which runs through the pariſh, gives name to the town and the noble family to whom the pariſh belongs. The name is doubtleſs of Gaelic original, and ſignifies *Black Water*, which is an exceeding proper appellation for the river, as it is black, having its ſource and all its ſupplies from a moſſy country*.

* There are other ſtreams in Scotland, diſtinguiſhed by the name of Douglas.

Situation, Extent, Soil and Climate.—The extent of the pariſh is conſiderable, being about 12 miles long, and in ſome places from 4 to 6, in others from 6 to 7 broad. The pariſh is ſituated, about 40 miles from the ſea, every way. The ſoil is variable, except the holms, which being a new ſoil formed by the river, is pretty uniform; but the ground on either ſide is very ſpouty, occaſioned in ſome places by the *outburſts* of the coal and other minerals; but in moſt places by the bottom being a cold wet till. The lands are moſtly laid out in ſheep farms. In the ſtrath, and along the banks of the river, there are ſeveral arable farms; but the lands occupied in this manner, bear ſmall proportion, to what are laid out in ſheep walks. Their paſture is hilly, though not very high; and is both green and heathy. The air is very moiſt, particularly in ſpring and autumn. The winds generally blow impetuouſly about the time of the equinox, and frequently in autumn ſhake a deal of corn. They blow moſtly from the S. W., which being the direction of the river, and the banks high on each ſide, what would be accounted a moderate breeze in other places, is here often a kind of hurricane. It is however a very healthy place; and there are in it many inſtances of longevity. Many have exceeded 80 and 90 during the incumbency of the preſent miniſter. There are 2 men in the pariſh at preſent aged 92; and it is well authenticated, that a man died here, in the beginning of this century, aged at leaſt 110, having lived during a part of 3 centuries.

Woods and Rivers.—There is very little natural wood in this pariſh, and that only a kind of bruſh. The aſh appears to have been the favourite tree of our anceſtors. At many of the old farm ſteads, there are large aſh trees; and at the Caſtle of Douglas there is a row of very aged ones, which, tradition ſays, were uſed in barbarous times for hanging their enemies,

enemies, the Engliſh. There is alſo ſome planting about it of a later date. Lord Douglas, upwards of 20 years ago, planted about 300 acres: and within theſe laſt 10 or 11 years, above 800 acres more, with oaks, elms, beech, planes, aſhes, and firs of different kinds; which in a few years will have a fine effect to beautify and ſhelter this part of the country. Some hundred acres more are yet to be planted to complete the plan. The moſt conſiderable river in the pariſh is Douglas, which takes its riſe at the foot of Cairn Table, 9 miles above the town, and runs into the Clyde about 7 miles below it. There are 3 ſmaller waters in the upper part of the pariſh, which all run into Douglas; namely, Gleſpine, Kinnocks, and Monks. All theſe waters abound with excellent trout; and in ſome parts of the water of Douglas there are very fine pike.

Minerals.—This pariſh abounds in coal, which will be inexhauſtible for many centuries. There are many different ſeams from 2 to 7 feet in height. The decline of the minerals is various. At the march with the pariſh of Carmichael, about 1 of 3; ½ a mile to the weſtward, 1 of 2; and a little more weſt, 1 of 1½. The ſtretch of the coal is nearly parallel to the courſe of the river, which runs from S. W. to N. E. The moſt remarkable circumſtance, that attends theſe coals, is, their being interſected with a great number of ſteps, which throw the coal down from 30 to 50 feet perpendicular. Theſe ſteps are from 60 to 200 yards ſeparate, and lie nearly parallel. They croſs the ſtretch of the coals in a direction nearly weſt. Coal is the principal fuel here. As one tackſman rents the coal both in this eſtate, and in the eſtate of Carmichael, the property of the Earl of Hyndford (through which eſtate the ſame ſeams of coal ſtretch), the demand from either of the works is very irregular and uncertain, being regulated

gulated by the ſuperior quality of either work for the time, and by the caprice of the purchaſers. But for 20 years paſt, the annual produce on both eſtates has been from 50,000 to 70,000 loads of 2½ cwt. Taking the medium 60,000 loads, at 5 d. *per* load, at the heugh, the produce in money is 1250 l. The coal heugh, about 3 miles above the town of Douglas, is by moſt people thought the beſt coal. There is plenty of lime and free ſtone here.

Rent.—The holm and croſt land let at from 15 s. to 20 s. *per* acre; the field land from 5 s. to 2 s. according to the quality; the beſt land near the town from 30 s. to 40 s.; nay, ſome land in Lord Douglas's parks, after lying in lee for a number of years, has been let for two crops at 3 l. 3 s. *per* acre. Arable farms let at from 40 l. to 100 l.; ſheep farms from 50 l. to 200 l.

Agriculture and Produce.—Oats are the prevailing and almoſt only grain ſown here; the moſt extenſive farmers not ſowing more than 3 or 4 acres of bear, with from 2 to 3 of early grey peaſe, and ſome potatoes. It is not owing to prejudice, but neceſſity, that the people have adopted this mode of farming; long experience having ſhewn them, that oats are the crop that can be moſt depended on. And indeed, ſuch is the ſeverity of the ſeaſons in this country, that very frequently the bear and peaſe are deſtroyed by the froſt before they come to maturity: And though oats are a more hardy grain, they are ſtinted in their growth by the cold, and, in particular late ſeaſons, rendered in a great manner uſeleſs, both for man and beaſt. In the year 1782, there was not a boll of tolerable oat-meal produced in the pariſh. There was neither bear nor peaſe; and the oat-meal was little better than the duſt of other years, and very little of it. Great quantities of white peaſe-

peaſe-meal were imported from Leith, and oat-meal from Annandale and Nithſdale; and the tenants were obliged to purchaſe their ſeed corn for the enſuing year, at Leith, and in Tweeddale, Nithſdale and Annandale. The quantity ſown on the acre is about 6 Wincheſter buſhels; and the average produce of the whole farm, from 18 to 24. The boll, or 6 buſhels of oats, gives, *communibus annis*, 6 ſtones of meal; but in calamitous ſeaſons, it has been known to give only from 3 to 3½, and of very bad quality. The Blainſley or Tweeddale oats are moſt commonly ſown here. An early ſpecies, called *barley oats*, has been introduced by ſome farmers; but this grain is very liable to ſhed, or ſhake, before it is ripe, eſpecially in this country, where the winds blow very high. Beſides, theſe oats afford little ſtraw, and that of a worſe quality than the Tweeddale; and ſtraw is the principal fodder for horſes and cattle here. The greateſt part of this pariſh ſeems better adapted for grazing than tillage, and would probably turn out to greater advantage that way; for ſervants wages are greatly advanced *, and the return in corn being ſo very ſmall, little profit can ariſe from an arable farm. The froſts are ſeldom off, nor do the lands acquire a ſufficient dryneſs for ſowing, before the 24th of March; and it is uſually near the end of September before the harveſt be general. The corns are rarely got in, ſooner than the end of October, or firſt week of November. There are 40 ploughs and 133 carts in the pariſh.

Sheep, Horſes, &c.—The ſheep in this pariſh are the black-faced ſhort Scotch ſheep, and ſuperior to thoſe in the neighbouring

* A farm ſervant was hired 20 years ago for 5 l. a year, and a maid ſervant for 2 l. 10 s.: Now a good man ſervant cannot be had under from 7 l. to 10 l. and a maid from 3 l. to 4 l. Day labourers were 10 d., and the higheſt 1 s.; now they are 14 d. and 16 d.

bouring parishes. They weigh, when fat, from 7 to 10 lb. *per* quarter, Dutch; have from 4 to 6, or even 8 lb. of tallow, tron: their wool gives from 4 s. to 5 s. 6 d. *per* stone, from 4 to 6 fleeces to a stone.—All the store-masters of this parish got the premiums at Lanark for tups, as long as the regulations would permit them.—There are between 13,000 and 14,000 sheep; about 200 horses, and 800 black cattle in the whole parish, besides what Lord Douglas has in his parks.

Roads.—This parish, is in the centre of the great roads, from Glasgow to England, and from Edinburgh to Ayr. About 18 years ago, Lord Douglas, at his own expence, made near 30 miles of the one, and 20 of the other. The statute work, which is at present exacted in kind from the tenants, is applied to keep them in repair, but is a very inconsiderable part of what is necessary for that purpose. There are toll bars on the roads, to which the people are now reconciled, but were greatly averse to at their erection.

Manufactures.—No manufactures were established in the parish, till this year, that a company from Glasgow, consisting of natives of Douglas, and men of industry and intelligence, fitted up a small cotton spinning and weaving work, in the town of Douglas. The carding is performed by horses, and the spinning by hand jeannies. Another respectable company, mostly belonging to this place, have erected a small carding and spinning mill on the lands of Carmacoup, 3 miles above the town, which already gives employment to a good number of hands. They are both in their infancy, but there is no doubt of their succeeding.

Population.—The population is now upon the increaſe, and bids fair to continue ſo, though there has been, on the whole, a decreaſe within theſe 40 years.

POPULATION TABLE *of the Pariſh of* DOUGLAS.

Population in the year 1755,	2009	Number of widowers, -	31
——— *anno* 1791, -	1715	——— of widows, - -	82
Decreaſe - - -	294	——— of Members of the Eſtabliſhed Church,	1677
Average of births from 1700 to 1710, - - -	43½	——— of Antiburgher Seceders,	3
—— 1750 to 1760, - -	56½	——— of Cameronians, -	40
—— 1782 to 1792, -	50	——— of clergymen, -	2
Inhabitants in the town of Douglas, - - -	684	——— of ſchoolmaſters, -	7
——— in the country,	1031	——— of male ſervants, -	92
Number of males, -	774	——— of female ditto, -	90
——— of females, -	941	——— of poor, - -	29
——— of families, -	419	——— of young perſons not gone to ſchool, -	246

Eccleſiaſtical State.—There are two clergymen in this pariſh, the miniſter of the eſtabliſhed church, and a Cameronian or M'Millanite miniſter, who has reſided in it about 30 years. Lord Douglas is patron of the pariſh. The ſtipend is 83l. 6s. 8d. Sterling, and a very good glebe. A new church, manſe, and offices were built in 1781. The old church was called St. Brides's Church, in honour of the patroneſs of the pariſh: a part of it is ſtill kept up, on account of the ancient monuments in it and burying vault,* although there is a very elegant

* On the north ſide of the church, in a niche below the gallery belonging to the family of Douglas, is buried one of the Dukes of Tourain. The arch of the monument is partly broken down and defaced; but on the fragments his arms appear quartered thus:—1ſt, Tourain, 2d, Douglas, 3d, Galloway, 4th Annandale, with the following inſcription:—HIC JACET ARCHIBALDUS DOUGLAS, DUX DE TOURENIÆ, COMES DE DOUGLAS ET LONGVILLE, DOMINUS

elegant burying vault in the new kirk, for the family of Douglas, in which are depoſited the remains of the Duke and Ducheſs of Douglas, and Lady Lucy Douglas.

NUS GALLOVIDIÆ, WIGTONIÆ & ANNANDIÆ, LOCUM TENENS REGIS SCOTIÆ, OBIIT 26. DIE MENSIS JUNII 1438. This nobleman was the ſon of Archibald Douglas, ſurnamed *Tineman*, the firſt Duke of Tourain, and Maud Lindſay, daughter of David Earl of Crawford. On the ſouth ſide of the church, in a niche commonly called St. Thomas's aiſle, are the following inſcriptions: *Hic jacet Magnus et Potens Princeps, Dominus Jacobus de Douglas, Dux Toureniæ et Comes de Douglas, Dominus Annandiæ, Gallovidiæ, Liddaliæ, Jedburg: forreſtiæ et Dominus de Balvenia, Magnus Wardanus regni Scotiæ verſus Angliam, &c. qui obiit 24. die Menſis Martii, Anno Domini* 1443. This James was brother to the former Archibald, and ſucceeded to his eſtate and honours after the murder of his two ſons in Edinburgh Caſtle. The following is the inſcription for his lady. *Hic jacet Domina Beatrix de Sinclair, (filia Domini Henrici Comitis Orcadum, Domini de Sinclair, &c.) Comitiſſa de Douglas et Avenia, Domina Gallovidiæ.* In baſſo relievo, are to be ſeen the above nobleman's arms impaled, with his lady's; the cutting is diſtinct, and part of the gilding ſtill entire. On the eaſt ſide of theſe, above the church-door, is a ſtone, with the following inſcription, which is ſuppoſed to have been moved from its original ſtation, when making ſome repairs on the Church. *Hæ ſunt proles inter prædictos Dominum et Dominam generatæ. 1mo, Dominus Wilhelmus primogenitus et hæres dicti Domini Jacobi, qui ſucceſſit ad totam hæreditatem prædictam. Jacobus 2do genitus magiſter de Douglas. Archibaldus 3tio genitus comes Moraviæ. Hugo 4to genitus comes Ormundiæ. Joannes 5to genitus Dominus de Balvenia. Henricus 6to, genitus. Margareta uxor Domini de Dalkeith. Beatrix uxor Domini* * *Joannis, conſtabularii Scotiæ. Janeta uxor Domini de Biggar et de Cumbernauld. Elizabetha Douglas 4ta filia erat.* In a niche on the north ſide of the church, weſt from the Duke of Tourain's monument, there has been another magnificent one, embelliſhed with Gothic ornaments, erected to the memory of the good Sir James, the eighth Lord of the family, upon which were 12 lion's heads of curious net work, which had been cut, mutilated and abuſed during the time of Oliver Cromwell's uſurpation, by his garriſon (placed in the caſtle of Douglas), in reſentment of Sir James having been an enemy to the Engliſh nation. This monument is not impaled. The following are the inſcriptions on the lead coffins in the vault:—*Gul. Angus. Dominus ex Jacobo Marchione Douglaſiæ*

* Home, in his hiſtory of the Douglaſes, calls him Lord of *Aubigny*.

Schools and Poor.—Besides the public school, there is also an English school in the town; always two, and sometimes three English schools in the country part of the parish; there are also, at present, two Sunday schools in the town, which are of great advantage to the young, and especially such of them as are much employed throughout the week. The poor, on the weekly roll, get, according to their circumstances, from 6 d. to 2 s. per week. But besides those on the roll, there are many occasional poor, who get from 2 s. 6 d. to 5 s. per quarter. There is 110 l. Sterling mortified for their use. The collections at the church, which have always been good, are still increasing; and last year they amounted to near 35 l. The other casualities vary, but may, at an average, amount to about 20 l. yearly. The heritors, have, for many years past, assessed themselves in what was necessary to make up the deficiency. In 1783, when the meal was not only dear but scarce and bad, Lord Douglas ordered money to be given to the minister to purchase good meal, to be distributed weekly to such as had occasion for it, at 1 s. per peck, and his Lordship

Douglasiæ, et Dom. Maria Kerr filia Comitis Lothianæ conjuge primogenitus, Nat. 15 *Oct.* 1693, *obiit* 20 *May* 1694.—*Maria Gordon filia Georgii primi Marchionis de Huntly, quam Gulielmus primus Marchio de Douglas in uxorem secundo duxit, quæque anno suæ ætatis sexagesimo quarto salutis humanæ*, 1644, *mortem obiit.—Hic situm est corpus Gul. Marchionis Douglasiæ eo titulo primi, qui ex diversis et mutuis thalamis ab Hamiltoniorum et Gordoniorum gente suam progeniem continuatam Hamiltoniorum vero instauratam reliquit Obiit* 11. *Cal. Mart. anno* 1660, *ætat. vero* 71.—*Margaret. Hamiltoun Angusiæ Comitissa obiit* 38 *anno ætatis suæ* 11 *Septembris* 1623.—*Anna Stewarta duc: Lennoxiæ et Richmondiæ filia Archibaldo Angusiæ Comiti per XVIII. annos nupta, obiit XVI. die Augusti, ann. MDCXV. VI. æt. XXXI.—D. O. M. Hic positum est corpus Margaretæ filiæ primogenitæ Gul. Marchionis de Douglas, relictis ex matrimonio cum Margareta obiit, 1mo, Jan.* 1660. *Katharino conjuga Domini de Torphichen, item Joanna Gul. Alexandri Comite de Sterl. ætatis* 49. The following is the only inscription upon the last Marquis of Douglas:—*I. M. D. Ætatis* 54. *Obiit* 25 *Febrii.* 1700.

ſhip paid the balance, which was a great and ſeaſonable relief to the induſtrious poor at that time.

Caſtle.—The old caſtle of Douglas was burnt by accident about 33 years ago. The Duke, in his lifetime, built one wing of a new caſtle, of very ſtrong and elegant work, in which there are betwixt 50 and 60 fire-rooms. This wing was finiſhed by Lord Douglas, but it ſtill wants a front and another wing to complete the plan. The dining room is a moſt elegant one, being 40½ feet long, 25 feet broad, and 18 feet high. There is alſo a beautiful hanging ſtair, which is much admired by all people of taſte.

General Character of the People.—They are a ſober, decent, and induſtrious ſet of people; attend regularly on the ordinances of the goſpel, and are remarkably charitable and humane; they even turn their innocent amuſements to the advantage of the poor; for, during the ſevere froſt laſt winter, when they went to curling on the ice, a favourite diverſion here, they, more than once, played for a certain ſum each, and applied the forfeited money, to purchaſe coals for the poor.

NUMBER

NUMBER VI.

PARISH OF TWEEDSMUIR.

(*County of Tweeddale—Presbytery of Peebles—Synod of Lothian and Tweeddale.*)

By the Rev. Mr THOMAS MUSCHET.

Erection, Extent, Soil, Hills, Rivers, &c.

THIS district, formed anciently a part of the parish of Drummelzier, but was erected into a distinct parish in 1643. It is about 9 miles in length, and in many places as much in breadth. It is a hilly country, with some flats and morasses. A number of the hills are very beautiful, being covered with grass to the very tops; others have a mixture of heath; some are of a great height, particularly Hartfield and Broadlaw, which are about 2800 feet above the level of the sea. The river Tweed has its source at the south-west extremity of the parish, and runs through it in a north east direction. It is joined by the waters of Core, Fruid, and Talla, besides several smaller burns or rivulets, all of which abound with trouts.

Cultivation and Produce.—The arable parts of the parish produce oats, barley, &c. upon a light loam, with gravel and sand at the bottom; but, owing to the great rains, and early frosts, the crops are very precarious; indeed the whole of the parish is by nature principally adapted for pasture. The mutton fed upon the heathy hills and flats, is remarkable for delicacy

delicacy of taſte and flavour; although ſmall, and ſeldom weighing more than 10 or 12 lbs. per quarter, it is far ſuperior (for the table) to the large mutton fed upon a low and rich paſture.

Sheep and Wool.—The whole of the pariſh contains 15 farms, which feed about 15,000 ſheep, beſides a neceſſary number of horſes and black cattle. The graziers in the north of England, are particularly fond of the Tweedſmuir breed of ſheep; they buy them of all ages, and drive them to their farms, where they are much eſteemed, being healthy and good thrivers. A number of the young ſheep are ſold at the Linton markets, in the month of June, to be driven to the Ochil and Alva hills, and other places in the Highlands of Scotland; a number of lambs, yeld ſheep, and draught ewes, are ſold to the butcher, and help to ſupply the markets of Edinburgh, Glaſgow, &c. The ſheep farmers, commonly called ſtore-maſters, begin to ſmear their ſheep about the middle of October, with a mixture of tar and butter, which, after ſeparating the wool, is laid cloſe to the ſkin in regular layers all over the body, to deſtroy the vermin that breed on ſheep, and protect the animal againſt the inclemency of the weather. This operation, no doubt, leſſens the value of the wool, but it is found to be abſolutely neceſſary. The fleeces thus impregnated with tar and butter, are ſhorn about the middle of ſummer, and lately ſold at 6s. and 6s. 6d. per ſtone: a great part of them is ſent to the manufacturing towns in Yorkſhire; ſome to the north of Scotland; a ſmall part is manufactured into coarſe cloth for family uſe, and ſome is ſpun into yarn, and ſold in that ſtate. Several attempts have been made to improve the ſtaple of wool in this pariſh, by introducing an Engliſh breed of ſheep, from thoſe belonging to Mr. Bakewell; but they were found not to anſwer, as they were very unhealthy

unhealthy, and never arrived to the size or fatness of the native sheep. Mr. Tweedie of Oliver, however, a respectable heritor in this parish, has found the Cheviot breed as hardy as the native.

Population.—The population of this parish has decreased considerably. About 70 years ago, the lands were occupied by 26 tenants, but the farms have since that period been gradually enlarged in extent, and of course diminished in number; even of the 15 to which they are now reduced, so many are engrossed in the hands of the same persons, and these often settled in other parishes, that there are only 3 farmers at present resident in the whole parish. The whole number of dwelling houses is only 51, and of these 3 are inns, situated at the Crook, Beild, and Tweedshaws, upon the high-way from Edinburgh to Moffat, Dumfries, &c. which passes through this parish along the banks of the Tweed, and is often, (especially in that part of its extent which lies within this parish), in a very bad state, but will now meet with a thorough repair. The whole number of souls, at present in the parish, is only 227; the return to Dr. Webster, in 1755, was 397, so that there is a decrease of 170. Before the practice of inoculation was introduced, the small pox frequently carried off great numbers of the children. The inhabitants of Tweedsmuir are in general stout and healthy, and many live to an advanced age. During the last 10 years, there have been 77 baptisms, 33 marriages, and 56 burials.

Church, School, and Poor.—The church was built in 1648. The stipend was paid some years ago, partly in grain, and partly in money; but an equitable conversion having been agreed upon, at the rate of 12 s. 6 d. a boll for the grain, the whole stipend is now paid in money, and amounts to 75 l. Sterling a-year.

a-year. The Duke of Queenſberry is patron; the lands in the pariſh belong to 7 different heritors, of whom only 1 reſides. The poor are aſſiſted by the weekly collections at church; a ſchool was lately inſtituted, and a ſchool houſe built; the heritors fixed the ſalary at 100 merks Scotch, but the ſcholars are few in number.

Antiquities.—Some remains of antiquity are to be ſeen in this pariſh, near the highway; and a few miles above the Beild there are ſeveral cairns, which have probably been raiſed over ſome ancient graves*: Veſtiges of ancient caſtles ſtill remain at Oliver; at Fruid, where a family of the name of Fraſer formerly reſided; and at Hackſhaw, the ſeat of the ancient family of the Porteouſes.

* Near Nether Menzion, on the banks of the river Fruid, is the grave of Marion Chiſholm, who is ſaid to have come hither from Edinburgh, while the plague was raging there, and to have communicated the peſtilential infection to the inhabitants of three different farms in the pariſh, viz. Nether Menzion, Glencothe, and Fruid, by means of a bundle of clothes, which ſhe brought with her; in conſequence of which, a number of perſons died, and were buried in the ruins of their houſes, which their neighbours pulled down upon their dead bodies.

NUMBER VII.

PARISH OF KILMARTIN.

(*County and Synod of Argyll—Preſbytery of Inverary.*)

By the Rev. Mr. HUGH CAMPBELL.

Origin of the Name.

REMOTE Highland pariſhes, diſtant from the ſcenes of great and memorable events, backward in moſt kinds of improvements, particularly in agriculture, and without trade or manufactures, cannot be expected to furniſh much matter for ſtatiſtical inquiry.—The name of this pariſh is, and has been Kilmartin, as far back as either record or tradition can trace it. It is ſuppoſed to have been given, in memory of ſome reputed ſaint, in a diſtant period of Chriſtianity. Such etymologies of names, particularly thoſe of ancient burial places, which were generally places of worſhip, are not uncommon. In this country, ſuch places were called *Kills*. Kilmartin was therefore the burial place of St. Martin, and probably alſo his reſidence.

Extent, Surface, Soil, Climate, &c.—The form of the pariſh is oblong, running from S. W. to N. E. Its length is from 11 to 12 miles, and its greateſt breadth about 3 miles. The appearance of the country in the lower, or S. W. end of the

the pariſh, is rather hilly than mountainous, with arable and paſture grounds intermixed. Some of the hills being covered with green, and others with ſhort heath, are conſidered as good paſture for cattle. The upper or N. E. end is much higher land, more adapted to paſture than tillage, (though it contains a conſiderable extent of arable ground), and, till of late, has been occupied as ſuch. The ſoil in the lower end is rather light, yet fertile, producing what are here conſidered as good crops. In the upper end it is deeper, yet the land being high and cold, the grain is late in ripening and ill filled. The valley, from the church of Kilmartin, to Lochow, is one of the moſt beautiful in the Highlands. The rocks covered on each ſide with trees to their ſummits, form a picturesque appearance; and the luxuriance of the wood ſhews that planting of every ſort would thrive well. The climate does not differ much from other parts of the country; but although wet, is not unhealthy. Agues are ſeldom known, nor are there any pulmonary complaints. Fevers, of the low and nervous ſort, are found amongſt the lower claſs, ariſing from want of cleanlineſs, and from a poor diet. The ſoil is fertile, and yields good crops of barley. There is a large tract of moſs near Crinan, which is very improveable; and the proprietor, Mr. Malcolm of Poltalloch, much to his credit, intends, it is ſaid, to let it out in ſmall portions to tenants, for improving it, which will be of great uſe, both by increaſing population, and by ſetting an example, worthy to be followed, in other parts of the country.

Lakes, &c.—The only conſiderable lake in this pariſh is Lochow, a part of which forms a boundary between it and Glaſrie to the N. E. for about 6 miles. The whole lake is computed to be 24 miles in length; but it is not broad in

any part. It abounds with trouts and ſalmon. The fiſhing, to a certain extent, is the property of an heritor of this pariſh. There is a pecular ſpecies of fiſh in it, called *black trouts*, which are ſhort and thick, black in the ſkin, and red in the fiſh. The incumbent has ſeen one of them that weighed 16 lb. and when cut up, two ſmall trouts were taken out of it entire, one of them meaſuring 12 inches, the other 10. This fiſhing, however, has not hitherto been ſo very productive, as to make it an object worthy of much public notice.

Sea Coaſt and Fiſh.—The extent of coaſt will be from 7 to 8 miles, nearly S. and N., formed by an arm of the ſea, called Loch Craigniſh. The ſea, by which the ſouth part of this pariſh and North Knapdale is bounded to the W. and N. W., is formed into a ſtrait by the Iſland of Jura, which divides it from the Weſtern Ocean. The ſhore is, for the moſt part, high and rocky, except the Bay of Crinan, and the end of Loch Craigniſh, (which are fine flat ſand), and a few other ſmaller creeks.

There is a ſpecies of fiſh taken on this coaſt, which goes by the general name of *Grey* fiſh. They are of different ſizes, moſt of them much larger than herrings. They are generally caught in the evening and morning, with rods and lines, but not in great quantities; though they are very uſeful, contributing not only to the ſupport of thoſe, who reſide within a mile or two of the coaſt, during the ſummer, which is the ſcareeſt ſeaſon, but affording them alſo light in the winter by their oil.—There are likewiſe in the Bay of Crinan, cod, ling, turbot, ſoles, &c. in great abundance; but the people are not ſkilful in catching them.—Herrings are frequently taken in Loch Craigniſh and Loch Crinan, though not to any great extent; alſo the fineſt oyſters that are any where to be found, and in great plenty. In the former, about 6 years ago,

ago, there were about 500 l. worth of herrings caught, by from 20 to 30 boats, in the courſe of 4 or 5 weeks, (though moſt of them were ill provided with nets or ſkilful hands), and ſold in the country, at from 10 d. to 1 s. the hundred. They generally appear upon the coaſt from July to Auguſt. The other ſea animals, are, ſeals, peltocks, otters, and ſome ſmall whales, that come to the coaſt in purſuit of the herrings.

The ſea weed, uſeful for manure, and driven aſhore by the ſtorms, is a ſort of long graſs, called ſea graſs; it is generally uſed for potatoes; and when laid on in large quantities, gives middling crops of that root. There is alſo a weed, called *tangle*, ſometimes made into kelp, which is a richer manure, and, when moderately laid on, and not often repeated, (without a mixture of ſome cooling ſtuff, to correct the hot ſcalding nature of it), is found to give good crops of bear. The kelp, is not ſo conſiderable, as might be expected from the extent of ſhore, for it produces only from 10 to 12 tons yearly.—The courſe of the tides, upon the ſhore and adjacent ſea, is pretty much from N. to S., and the reverſe. The coaſt of this pariſh does not lie in the courſe of veſſels; but the excellent harbour of Crinan invites them to anchor in it *.—There are ſeveral

* Loch Crinan is not only the beſt harbour of this pariſh, but is conſidered as the beſt upon a great tract of the weſtern coaſt. In this harbour, almoſt the whole of the buſs herring fleet anchor, in their voyages to and from the fiſhing ground, beſides a vaſt number of veſſels from Great Britain and Ireland; and they are frequently detained in this harbour, for ſeveral weeks, waiting for a fair wind to take them round the Mull of Kintyre. By a ſurvey recently made, it has been found practicable, to make a navigable canal for large ſea-built veſſels, from this to Loch Gilp, which is only 5 miles acroſs. And Mr. Rennie, an eminent engineer, who ſurveyed it, is of opinion, that it may be made, at a very moderate expence, and with plenty of water for boats and barges, as well as large veſſels. It is hardly poſſible to expreſs the aſtoniſhing advantages, with which the opening of this communication will be attended to the

ſeveral iſlands belonging to this pariſh; but only 2 of them are any thing conſiderable; with ſome bays or creeks, ſafe harbours for coaſting veſſels.—The lower end of this pariſh*, upon the Bay of Crinan, and contiguous to the place of the propoſed canal, is conſidered by many as a proper ſituation for a village, there being ſome arable land, with a great extent of low flat moſs coming to the ſhore, which might not only furniſh convenient fuel, but could be eaſily improved by draining, and with the advantage of ſhell ſand, which is in great

the people of this part of the kingdom. It will not only enable the inhabitants to avoid entirely the very dangerous paſſage round the Mull of Kintyre, but, by affording a ready market for all the productions of the Weſtern Iſles, it will invite the people to purſue a variety of kinds of induſtry, to which they have hitherto been ſtrangers. Above all, it will enable them to ſupply themſelves with ſalt and coals; and if the duty were taken off the laſt, and rock ſalt allowed to be imported, the people in theſe countries would be as happy as they are now miſerable, and they would be under no temptation of leaving their native ſoil, to try their fortunes in America.—A ſubſcription is ſet on foot for this important purpoſe; and there is little doubt, that, from the ſpirited exertions now making, a ſufficient ſum will be raiſed. And, when the great magnitude of the trade is conſidered, there is reaſon to believe, that it will repay the ſubſcribers very liberally for the ſums they may advance. If that ſhould take place, a communication for boats, could be made from thence to Lochow, which is only 5 miles diſtant, and would open an extenſive and fertile country of near 32 miles, and be of great advantage, to the landed property, of that part of the county of Argyll.

* There are no monuments of antiquity, but ſome cairns or heaps of ſtones. Though theſe are to be met with in many parts of the country, yet they are more frequent in the lower end of this pariſh, which, being near a ſafe harbour, and conſidered as a good ſpot of land, is ſuppoſed to have given occaſion to many diſputes and quarrels; and tradition points out theſe cairns, as the burial places of thoſe of the lower claſs, who fell in ſuch conflicts. Near ſome of theſe cairns, there are a number of great ſtones, ſtanding upon end, from 6 to 8, or 10 feet above the ſurface, placed in a line, though rather irregular. They are alſo marked, by the ſame ſource, as the places where thoſe of greater note have been laid, but without any figure or character.

great abundance, would yield good crops, and afford employment and ſubſiſtence to ſettlers. The introduction of manufactures, (it is apprehended), would not be difficult, there being an eaſy communication with the Low Country. It is alſo at no great diſtance from the fiſhing ſtations; and there is hardly a year, but there are herrings from July to Auguſt, and ſometimes later, in moſt of the bays and creeks upon the weſt coaſt of Argyll.—There is a ſalmon fiſhing on the bay of Crinan, the property of Mr. Malcolm of Poltalloch. It has not, hitherto, been very productive. The fiſh, are generally ſold in the country, freſh, from 1½ d. to 2 d. the pound; but it might be greatly extended, by ſpirited management, which, there is every reaſon to think, will be the caſe, both in regard to fiſhing and lands, under the active and public ſpirited proprietor, who has lately purchaſed that property.

Minerals and Floods.—There is a copper mine, which has been wrought upon for ſome years, in the property of Mr. Campbell of Kilmartin: the company who had taken it, being diſſolved, it has been diſcontinued for ſome time, without aſcertaining its value, though the appearance was judged favourable.—Coals would be a happy diſcovery. There are no land floods, except the overflowings of a ſmall water, which runs through a valley for about 6 miles, and falls into the ſea at Crinan; it unites with a larger river, which partly divides this pariſh from Knapdale and Glaſrie, about half a mile before it falls into the ſea. There are ſeveral curious rocks of limeſtone, of the ſchiſtus kind, which are equally convenient for building and manure.

Animals.—Quadrupeds of the wild kind are foxes, hares, badgers, wild cats, pole-cats, weaſles. Native birds are black cocks, and muirfowls in the hill; crows, pyots, and wild pigeons

pigeons in the low grounds, with different kinds of hawks, and a few eagles. Upon the ſhore, ſea-maws, with various ſorts of ducks, and migratory birds: woodcocks appear early in winter, and diſappear in ſpring; alſo ſwans on the ſea and lakes. Thoſe fowls, called widgeons, appear early in ſpring, if the ſeaſon is mild, and diſappear about the middle or latter end of autumn, as the weather is moderate, or otherwiſe. There are ſome good black cattle, both in point of ſhape and ſize, which are reared from a few ſtocks in this pariſh, and fetch at the rate of, from 7 l. to 9l. the cow and calf. Young cattle ſell in proportion.

Population.—There are no records, by which the ſtate of this pariſh, with regard to population, can be traced very far back; the general belief is, that it has decreaſed between 70 and 80 ſouls within theſe laſt 20 years*.—The increaſe however within theſe 40 years is conſiderable. The preſent number of ſouls (all of whom reſide in the country), is as follows:

Males, - -	760		
Females, - -	777	- Total, -	1537
The number returned to Dr. Webſter in 1755, was, -			1150
		Increaſe, -	387
		Average	

* What has affected the population moſt, within that period, is, the laying out ſome lands entirely in paſture; 2 or 3 farms being now thrown into the hands of one grazier, which were formerly poſſeſſed, ſome by 4, and ſome by 8 tenants each, but are now the reſidence only of a herd or two: And at the end of the leaſes, which are very ſhort in this country, (being only from 5 to 7 years with the lower order of tenants), ſuch farms as are adapted to it are, almoſt always, laid out in paſture. This has not operated, however, ſo much againſt population in general, as againſt a particular claſs of the inhabitants. It reduces the number of the tenants, but it adds to that of the cottagers, as they are often kept, upon ſome of the farms, that are laid out in paſture. But although this may in part make up the deficiency in population, brought on by this mode of occupying lands; yet, upon the whole, it is found, that there has been ſome decreaſe in the number of inhabitants ſince the commencement of it, or within theſe 20 years.

Average of births for 5 years preceding 1791,	30	Perſons under 10 years of age,	443
—— of marriages for the ſame period *,	11	—— from 10 to 20,	257
—— of children produced by each, about	3½	—— from 20 to 50,	640
Number of bachelors above 20 years of age †,	70	—— from 50 to 70,	162
		—— from 70 to 89*,	36

Situation of the inhabitants.	*Number of Families.*	*Average of Perſons in each.*
Gentry,	6	11
Tenants ‡,	100	6
Crofters §,	24	6
Cotters ‖, or cottagers	133	5 nearly
Change-keepers,	9	7

* *There is no regiſter of deaths. There are few above* 83 *in the pariſh, and none ſo old as* 90.

† The proportion of bachelors to the annual marriages is about 6 to 1: Of the latter to the whole population, as 1 to 19; and of the births, as 1 to 50.

‡ The tenants, particularly of arable farms, have but ſmall poſſeſſions, only the fourth part of a farm, or what is called here a *horſe-gang*; ſo that there are generally 4 upon every farm, and ſometimes 6 and 8 when it is a large one. The work of the farm is carried on in common among the whole tenants, with their wives and children. They ſeldom employ any ſervants, and ſuch only occaſionally, when their children are not of age to give any aſſiſtance.

§ The crofter is tenant of a ſtill ſmaller poſſeſſion. He occupies a piece of arable land, marked out for himſelf, which may be, from 1, to 2, or 3 acres, though not generally meaſured, with graſs for 1 or 2 cows, in common with the cattle of the next farm. It were to be wiſhed that this mode would become more general, and the croſts made larger, as it is found, that a piece of land, in the management of 1 man, with ordinary care and induſtry, will make it more productive, in proportion, than a larger extent, when under the direction of a greater number.

‖ The cotters are the moſt numerous claſs, in which are comprehended the tradeſmen, the day labourers, the old infirm reduced tenants, and ſeveral widows. The cotter poſſeſſes only a ſmall houſe and garden, ſometimes without a cow's graſs, and even potatoe land, but what he muſt purchaſe from the tenants. He

is

Taylors,	11	Shoemakers,	
Weavers,	16	Millers,	
Smiths,	4	Ferryman,	
Houſe carpenters,	3	Salmon fiſher,	
Boat carpenter,	1	Apprentices,	
Plough and cart maker,	1	Men ſervants *,	
Wheel wright,	1	Women ſervants,	

Climate and Diſeaſes.—The climate is rather rainy; ye the inhabitants depend more upon temperance and exercis than phyſic, for health. There are none of the faculty there fore in the pariſh, though ſome reſide at no great diſtance. There are no deſtructive epidemical diſtempers, but the ſmall pox and meaſles. The danger of the former is nearly don away by inoculation (which is become pretty general here) and that danger would be ſtill leſs, if the lower people paid mor attentio

is independent of the tenants, for the farm on which he reſides, holding his poſ ſeſſion from the proprietor, to whom his rent and ſervices are payable. The old and infirm, being reckoned in this order, makes the average of their famili fall lower. There may be about 20 young lads, who hire themſelves for th north fiſhing yearly, and return to the pariſh when it is over; there being n veſſels from this place at that fiſhing.

Between 20 and 25 years ago, at different periods, about 40 families o tenants have been deprived of their poſſeſſions by a number of large farms be ing laid out into paſture. By the common calculation, this would diminiſh th population about 200. But upon many of the farms, ſome of the former po ſeſſors are retained as cotters, and others are put in, to preſerve the houſes, c *biggings*, as they are called, in caſe it might be found neceſſary, at ſome futur period, to return to the former mode of occupying the farms by ſmall tenant particularly farms adapted for tillage. By theſe means, the loſs which popula tion would otherwiſe ſuſtain, is, in a conſiderable degree, made up.

* As the gentry in this pariſh are but few, and the reſiding heritors ſtill fewe there are not many ſervants, and even theſe are occaſionally employed as labour ing ſervants, particularly during harveſt and hay making.

ttention to the regimen of their children upon theſe occaſions. There is another complaint which prevails among children, and generally thoſe about 12 years of age and under, called the hooping cough. It is exceedingly ſevere, and particularly dangerous, when it attacks very young children. It is generally very lingering. The continuance and ſeverity of it, may conſiderably depend, upon the ſeaſon of the year when it comes on.

Wood, Cattle, &c.—The natural wood here, conſiſts moſtly of oak and aſh, with ſome birch and hazel, but not to any great extent. Within theſe 25 years, at different periods, 100,000 trees, it is ſaid, have been planted upon one gentleman's property, of different kinds of fir, oak, aſh, beech, elm, and a variety of other trees. Upon a few other properties, there have been alſo ſome planted, though to a leſs extent.

	Black Cattle.	*Horſes.*	*Sheep.*
The cattle in this pariſh, of the different kinds, may amount to, - - - - - - - -	1800	350	6000
Of theſe, there may be in the poſſeſſion of the ſmall tenants, in parcels on the different farms, about -	1000	280	1300

The reſt are in the hands of the graziers, and the principal tackſmen *.

Cultivation and Produce.—There is no general ſurvey of this pariſh; though a few of the heritors have got their eſtates meaſured, yet neither the arable, nor the paſture ground, is laid out by meaſure. The arable land is divided into *in-field* and *out-field*; the in-field into three equal parts; in one of theſe there is bear, in another oats, and the third is moſtly in potatoes. Next year, the bear follows the potatoes, oats the former bear, and

* There is a part of this pariſh which does not winter black cattle, yet ſummers about 200, which are not in the above enumeration.

potatoes the diviſion which was laſt in oats. This rotatio is continued from year to year; the manure being general lime, and the dung the cattle makes in winter. The ou field, is allowed to lie ley, or in paſture, for 2 years, and th milk cattle and ſheep are folded upon it: Then there are running crops of oats, and ſometimes 3, taken of it, and th ſame reſt, and cropping is continued, being the general proce of agriculture in this country. There is no graſs ſeed ſow but by 1 gentleman; and the extent of land is not aſcertaine The pariſh ſupplies the inhabitants with beef, mutton, butt and cheeſe; but it hardly does ſo in meal for 7 months of th year, and the bear, being all diſtilled into whiſky, occaſions a co ſiderable quantity of that grain to be imported. The time of ſow ing oats, is from the beginning of April to the middle of it the potatoe planting begins then; and bear from the 8th to th 15th of May. The bear is begun to be cut towards the la ter end of Auguſt, and the oats about the middle or end September, and ſometimes in October.—As the ſouth end the pariſh, lies moſtly upon the ſhore, near a good harbour, is equally calculated for tillage and paſture. The arable lan (which is conſidered among the beſt in this part of the cou try), lying low, and ripening pretty early, with the materi for improving it almoſt upon every field, ſuch as limeſto and moſs, with the appearance of marl in different place though hitherto not much tried. The north end is conſid ed among the beſt paſture land *.

Proprie

* The wages of male ſervants, in the different kinds of huſbandry or dom tic work, by the year, is from 61 to 71.; of female ſervants, from 50 s. to only, in harveſt, a female may make from 25 s. to 30 s. for 3 months. Th wages are conſidered as high here; and the riſe being within theſe few ye is imputed to the different improvements going on in the Low Country, pariſh being nearly a day's journey to it, and many of the ſervants acquai

Proprietors and Rent.—There are 12 heritors; only 3 reſide in the pariſh, whereby above 2000 l. of the rent is ſpent out of it.

The valued rent is about	-	L. 3643	3	0	Scotch;
The real rent about	-	3453	0	0	Sterling.

One gentleman's property in the ſouth extremity, upon the bay of Crinan, conſiſting of 3822 acres, of which 1026 are arable, is valued at 1089 l. 7 s. Scotch; the real rent is about 750 l. Sterling. This is the principal property in the pariſh, and may be greatly improved by cultivating the moſs above mentioned. Another gentleman's property, on the north end of the pariſh, conſiſts of extenſive hill land. The whole eſtate was ſurveyed; but 1 farm of it being in the neighbouring pariſh, makes the exact number of acres belonging to this diſtrict uncertain, but it is believed by the proprietor to be about 7000. The valued rent is 410 l. 13 s. Scotch; the real rent

with the wages there, muſt have ſomething near it, though there are neither improvements nor manufactures to afford it.

There are 42 ploughs, 1 to every farm, though there may be 6 more farms, and extenſive as to hill, they can hardly be ſaid to have a plough, as their ſowing will not conſiſt of above a boll or two, of a kind of ſmall black bearded corn, or oats, for feeding cattle in winter. There are about 10 or 12 of the above number, who plough little more than what ſerves the cattle in ſevere winters.—About 15 years ago, there was a plough-maker almoſt in every other farm. Any perſon, who conſidered himſelf poſſeſſed of greater ſagacity than his neighbour, went to the wood, and took ſuch ſticks as had a natural caſt for his purpoſe, which being joined in a moſt clumſy manner, without the leaſt knowledge of mechanical principles, formed what was called a plough. It tore up the land, indeed, but with great labour both to man and horſe. There is now a regular bred plough-maker, who has been ſettled in the pariſh theſe 6 years. The kind uſed, is the common plough, drawn by four horſes a-breaſt, the driver, with his face to the horſes, going backwards. There are only 12 carts, theſe implements of huſbandry not being as yet much uſed by the tenants.

rent is rather above 800 l. Sterling. The great riſe in this property has taken place within theſe 4 years; and there has been nearly the ſame proportion with regard to the riſe of rent in the reſt of the paſture and arable land. The great demand for black cattle, and the ſheep ſtocks, brought the extenſive hill land (the greateſt part of which is covered with heath), into repute, which, about 40 years ago, and even after that period, was very low rented, as of little value to either poſſeſſor or proprietor. On this property, there is about 600 l. ſaid to be laid out in ſtone dikes. The rent of cot houſes, the only kind that are let, will be from 10 s. to 15 s., without either graſs or potatoe land: The ſervices are 12 days with their victuals; but there being few reſiding heritors, theſe ſervices are moſtly commuted to both cotters and tenants, the cotters for 6 d. *per* day, the tenants for 1 s.; they being ſtill, however, liable for ſervices with horſes.

Stock and Produce.—As to the average value of the live ſtock, it is not eaſy aſcertained with any great accuracy, the knowing ones, in that way, differing in opinion; yet, at a medium, it may be from 4 l. to 4 l. 10 s. the cow, of 3 years old and upwards; the horſes from 7 l. to 8 l. above 2 years old; the ſheep in the ſtock way, being the black faced kind, about 12 s.; The ſmall tenants ſheep, being of an inferior kind, from 5 s. 6 d. to 6 s. Wool, clean and tarred, 7 s. the ſtone, of 24 Engliſh pounds; cheeſe, 5 s. when ſoft and green; butter, 12 s. the ſtone: Common fowls, a hen, 6 d., the cock, 4 d.; the dozen of eggs, 2 d. The laſt articles ſeem upon the riſe, there being a weekly packet from Loch Gilp to Greenock, which brought on a conſiderable demand.—As to the annual produce, it can hardly be aſcertained with any degree of accuracy, the land not being laid out by acres, nor the people very exact as to the quantity of ſeed they ſow; but

from

from the beſt information that can be got, the lower, or S.W. end of the pariſh, the principal arable part of it (being nearly one half of the valued rent, and two-fifths of the real), may ſow 540 bolls white oats, and 80 bolls bear: The produce does not exceed 3½ ſeeds of oats; and in bear, generally about 5½ or 6 returns. The boll of oats ſells, at from 15s. to 17s., according to the quality; the bear, from 20 s. to 22 s. The meaſure, is reckoned larger, by nearly 2 pecks, than the Linlithgow boll. There are conſiderable crops of potatoes, not that the increaſe is great, but large quantities being planted, ſome in the drilled way, the boll of them generally ſells, from 5 s. to 6 s., in autumn and winter. There is no regular meaſure for them, 3 barrels (herring gauge), being reckoned nearly a boll. When they fail, the tenants are much at a loſs, being under the neceſſity of uſing, for the ſupport of their families, the victual that was deſigned for the rent.

Farms.—The rent of arable farms, according to their quality and extent, may be from 40 l. to 80 l. They are poſſeſſed, the ſmaller farms by 4, and the larger by 6, and ſome times 8 tenants. The ſtock or holding of theſe farms, may be, from 24 to 48 cows, beſides ſome young cattle; from 30 to 60 ſheep; and from 8 to 12 horſes, according to their different extents. The ſowing is much in the ſame proportion; oats, from 20 to 45 bolls; bear, from 3 to 6 bolls. What is called bear here, is greatly inferior to the Low Country barley. It would be the intereſt of the tenant to reduce his ſtock at leaſt a fourth, as, by the preſent management, there is neither milk nor rearing in proportion to the number of cattle. When young, they are at ſhort allowance as to milk, and pinched in graſs when further advanced; ſo that few of them turn out to be good cattle. This holds good, however, only with regard to the cattle of the ſmall tenants.

Church.—

Church.—The living, as modified by decreet in the year 1765, is 1000 l. Scotch, including communion elements; a conſiderable part being in victual, make it, *communibus annis*, about 100 l. Sterling, with the glebe, which is ſuppoſed to be legal as to extent, with 4 ſoums graſs, in common with the cattle of the farm. The graſs is not conſidered as worth 10 s. each ſoum, in the year, notwithſtanding the great rent of graſs lands, that a cow's graſs cannot be got below 25 and 30 s. on ſome of the paſture farms.—The Duke of Argyll is patron.—The church was built in the year 1601. The walls are ſtrong, but the plan is incommodious. It is a long narrow ſtripe, and has had no reparation or improvement ſince it was built, except giving it a new roof. The pulpit is a curioſity, and is thought not to be matched in Scotland. It is an old Gothic ſtructure of ſtones and lime, about 7 feet from the level of the floor, and is coeval with the church. The manſe was built in the year 1789, and is a tolerable commodious houſe.

Schools and Poor.—There is a parochial ſchool, with a ſalary of 14 l. 4 s., made up by 6d. on the pound valuation, and mortified money, beſides ſeſſion emoluments and quarter wages. The number of ſcholars will be, in winter, from 80 to 90; but fewer in ſummer. There is alſo a ſociety ſchool, with 9 l. ſalary, attended by about 40 ſcholars in winter. The taſte here does not run much on the learned languages, there being few gentlemen's children.—The number of poor upon the pariſh liſt, is generally from 28 to 32. There is no eſtabliſhed fund for them beſides the church collections; and in a country pariſh, where there are but few gentry, and the lower claſs of tenants rather poor, and rarely having money in their hands, the collection muſt be very inconſiderable. The principal tackſmen do not reſide. This ſmall fund, may, with the ſacramental collection, amount to 10 l. or 12 l. a-year, and is diſ-

tributed, at ſtated times, and will only enable to get a pair of ſhoes, or ſome piece of clothes. They get their ſubſiſtence by begging from door to door; and, not being confined to their own pariſhes, come in great numbers from moſt corners of the kingdom. Among them there are many ſturdy beggars, more able to labour for their bread, than many of thoſe who ſerve them. It were to be wiſhed, that ſome plan were adopted, by which the condition of real objects might be rendered more comfortable, and thoſe who are able, made to contribute in ſome degree, to their own ſupport.

Village, Fuel, &c.—There are no villages, except Kilmartin, which is the place of worſhip, and other parochial meetings. It has a commodious inn, ſituated upon the great road from the ſouth end of Kintyre, by Tarbert and Lochgilp, and leading to Fort William, by Craigniſh and Lorn. It has 3 markets in the year, 1 for black cattle, and 2 for horſes, where the country people gather from 15 to 20 miles round, with webs of linen and woollen clothes, and ſuch ſmall parcels of lint, as can be ſpared from their families. Although ſituated upon the coaſt *, there are few ſeafaring people, as there is no trade to employ them. The harbour behind Ilan da-vain, and below Duntroon Caſtle, has good anchorage, and ſafe from all winds, with eaſy acceſs to veſſels of any burden.—The fuel commonly uſed is peats, a moſt precarious firing in this

* No ſhips have been wrecked on this coaſt in the memory of any now living, though, within theſe 10 years, there were 4 veſſels, of conſiderable ſize, driven aſhore in the bay of Crinan, with their cargoes. They were foreign veſſels, and ignorant of the coaſt; but the beach and ground are ſo excellent, that they were got off without any farther damage, but the loſs of a little time, and ſome trifling expence: ſo that there was no occaſion for any extraordinary exertion of humanity and generoſity, though, had there been occaſion, it would not have been wanting.

rainy climate. There are few peats ſold, as people generally endeavour to make their own; but when they are, the ordinary price is from 20 d. to 2s. the cart, according to the time they are bought, in harveſt or ſpring. The cart may furniſh 1 fire, to an ordinary family, for 5 or 6 days.

Character, &c.—The people, in general, are of a middling ſize, ſquat, and pretty ſtrong made, though not very remarkable for extraordinary ſtrength. They are from 5½ feet to 5 feet 10 inches, few of them 6 feet. In general, they are diſpoſed to induſtry, if it were properly directed. They are little attached to a military life; but when induced to enter into the ſervice, they have turned out good ſoldiers, and become even fond of the profeſſion. The few gentry here, live genteelly, without being extravagant. The other claſs of the inhabitants, are economiſts from neceſſity; their only luxury being a little whiſky occaſionally, which excites ſome mirth and glee. Their general character, however, is ſobriety. They complain of a difficulty in making up their rents, and conſequently, they muſt pinch themſelves in ſome of the comforts, or even neceſſaries, of life; yet, upon the whole, they ſeem cheerful and contented.

Diſadvantages.—The writer of this article will not preſume to ſay, whether the rent of farms here, may or may not be too high; but he will venture to aſſert, that the proprietors of arable farms, do not put them in that condition, which would enable the tenant to make the moſt of them. They are indeed generally incloſed, as to their limits or boundaries with the neighbouring farms, but all within, is one great open. The leaſes given, being only from 7 to 9 years, and ſome even ſhorter, are conſidered as a diſcouragement to improvement. Few of the ſmall tenants of arable farms here, can afford

ford to lay out much money upon their farms; but even if any of them ſhould have the ſpirit, to lay out part of their time and labour, in improving a piece of land, which otherwiſe might be of little value, from the proſpect of advantage to themſelves, though not immediate, upon looking forward, he is diſcouraged, as he finds his leaſe, before he had time to put his farm in order, drawing near an end; and thus the fruit of his labour, from which he might have any return himſelf, is to be conveyed to another, for a trifle of more rent. For 2 or 3 years, therefore, before the end of the leaſe, the tenant does nothing but what brings an immediate return. The leaſe being ſo ſhort, makes the return of theſe periods frequent, which muſt hurt the farms conſiderably, and conſequently the proprietors themſelves, ultimately. Another circumſtance, which is conſidered as unfavourable to improvement, is, the crouding many tenants upon one farm; 4, 6, and 8. It is well known, that no work, under the management of many, where every one claims an equal ſhare in the direction, can go ſmoothly on. Different opinions may occaſion ſome obſtruction, eſpecially if any thing, out of the common tract, is to be done. By this obſervation, it is not meant to put the farms into fewer hands; but to divide them, and for the moſt part to have but one on each poſſeſſion; and when they happen to be larger, two. This would bring on a conſiderable outlay; yet might form a ſource of more ſure income to the proprietor, and greater comfort to the tenant. This diviſion has been found very uſeful in other parts of Argyll-ſhire.

Miſcellaneous Obſervations.—This not being a commercial country, money is ſlow in its circulation; ſo that there can be no inducement for a Jew to reſide in it. All the inhabitants, except 2 ſhepherds, are natives of this and the neighbouring pariſhes. Such diſputes as require the inveſtigation

of lawyers, are generally ſettled at Inveraray, before the ſheriff of the county, and ſometimes at Edinburgh.

This pariſh, and indeed the whole of the country, is happily free from thoſe diſtractions, which ſeem to attend the diviſions and ſubdiviſions, with regard to religious tenets and church government, which prevail too much in different parts of Scotland. Here, all are of the Eſtabliſhed Church.

In the year 1782, when the ſcarcity of meal became general in the country, though felt here very much, yet there was no abſolute want, the proportion which fell to this pariſh, of the meal given by the Society for the Support of the Poor, being ſold at Inveraray.—There have been only 3 families, during theſe 30 years, who have emigrated to North America. Some young men and women, go yearly to ſerve in the Low Country, merely in expectation of higher wages, though they generally return within a year or two. A conſiderable number, particularly of the cotter claſs, go to the harveſt; ſome as far as the Lothians. Three families, this year, have gone to the cotton work, and ſome others ſpeak of following them, though it ſeems to be with reluctance, as they conſider the employment to be rather unfavourable to health, having formerly led an active life.—The language commonly ſpoken, is the Gaelic, which is the native tongue, though the Engliſh is generally a little underſtood even by the common people, and ſpoken by many *.—There is no market for butcher meat. Such

* The derivation of the names of places ſeems to be from the Gaelic, and to originate from ſome advantage or diſadvantage peculiar to the place, whether with regard to ſoil or expoſure, or any other particular circumſtance. The ſituation of the farm houſes, ſeems to have given names to many places, whether at the foot or top of a hill, in a flat or a hilly part, by a river or fountain: For inſtance, *Achabhann*, the field by the hill, or mountain; *Achacbrom*, the crooked field; *Glenchairn*, the glen by the cairn; *Tigh-a-charr*, the houſe by the great ſtone or rock; *Achanelan*, the field by the iſland; *Bannan*, the hilly place; *Culonuic*, at the foot or back of a hill, &c. There are many ſimilar to theſe, though the names of

Such as deal in that kind of proviſion, muſt ſlaughter for themſelves, this being a ſpecies of luxury, which the ordinary claſs of tenants cannot afford to indulge in.—The wages of a common day labourer, at huſbandry, road making, or any other work in that way, is from 1 s. to 14 d.; taylors, 8 d. and their victuals; ſhoemakers, 6 d.; houſe carpenters and maſons, are generally paid by the piece, but when by the day, from 20 d. to 2 s. without victuals. A married day labourer, with 3 or 4 children, would conſider 10 l. as a good proſpect for a year's ſubſiſtence, with ſome potatoes.—The preſent wages would give that proſpect, but the uncertainty of the weather occaſions much loſt time*.—No manufactures, properly ſo called, are carried on: There may be ſome ſpinning and knitting, in the intervals of labour by broken weather, and in the winter nights; and alſo dreſſing ſmall parcels of lint, by the common people; but theſe are principally for the uſe of their families. There are no other manufactures, except a whiſky diſtilliery.—Property has undergone little change for a century back, till of late that an eſtate of 714 l. free rent, ſold at 25,050 l.; and another ſmall property, about 2 years ago, at nearly the ſame proportion.

of many other places, to one who has not acquired a critical knowledge of that language, may ſeem arbitrary, as no obvious connection appears with regard to ſituation, or any other circumſtance.

* The prices of labour, and other things, about 40 or 50 years ago, cannot be aſcertained by any written record; yet there are many people who remember theſe periods well, and the common prices of the times, having had frequent occaſion to pay them. About the year 1745, cows ſold from 25 s. to 30 s., equal to thoſe of 4 l. and 5 l. in the preſent times; nor was there any great riſe, for ſeveral years after that period; ſheep, from 2 s. 6 d to 3 s; cheeſe much the ſame by the ſtone, being then 7 d. per lb.; butter, 6 d. The ordinary wages of female ſervants, by the year, was 12 merks; of male ſervants, from 24 merks to 30 s. of taylors, the beſt of them 4 d. a day, and their victuals; and of other tradeſmen in proportion. Meal ſeems to be the article, which has undergone the leaſt change, for theſe 30 years back; though variable in its price, yet it is generally from 14 s. to 16 s. the boll.

NUMBER VIII.

PARISH OF AUCHTERTOUL.

(*County and Synod of Fife—Preſbytery of Kirkcaldy.*)

By the Rev. Mr. JOHN SCOTT.

Name, Extent and Proſpect.

AUCHTER is ſaid to be an Erſe word, ſignifying a height; and *toul*, or *tool*, ſeems to be a corruption of *Teel*, the name by which a ſmall ſtream of water, that riſes in the pariſh, and runs into the ſea toward the eaſt, is diſtinguiſhed. Thus Auchtertoul ſeems to ſignify the heights, or higher grounds upon the Teel. The pariſh is about 2 miles in length, and 1 mile in breadth. There is a ſmall village in the pariſh, and the church is ſituated about half an Engliſh mile to the weſt of it. The ground about the church and manſe is elevated and commanding, and takes in a fine view of the ſea to the eaſt, as far as the eye can reach, comprehending in it, the Iſle of May, the Baſs, North-Berwick Law, and a point of the Lothian coaſt, which ſtretches a conſiderable way into the ſea.

Surface and Soil.—The ſurface of the ground is very unequal, and varied with eminences and little hills, which cauſes a conſiderable difference in the nature and quality of the ſoil; the land being light and thin towards the tops of the riſing grounds,

grounds, and richer and deeper as you deſcend. The ſoil is light, free and open; and ſuch parts of it, as have a warm ſouthern expoſure, are of a good quality: But the ground toward the N. W. end of the pariſh, is of a worſe nature, being a ſour, wet, clayey ſoil, and better fitted for paſture than for cultivation. A few acres, in the neighbourhood, are covered with heath, and a few are ſoft and marſhy. Theſe laſt have occaſionally been burnt, and for 2 or 3 years afterwards produced good crops; but they are not of ſuch a quality as to render them fit for the purpoſes of general cultivation, or productive for any length of time. Several of the faces and tops of the hills and riſing grounds, are interſperſed and covered with whins, which render them not only unfit for cultivation, but of a trifling value even for paſture. If theſe were incloſed and planted, they would both ſerve to give a warmth and ſhelter to the neighbouring ground (things very much wanted in this climate), and tend greatly to improve and beautify the face of the country, by giving it a more romantic and picturesque appearance. Some gentlemen, in the neighbourhood, are beginning to plant a little on their eſtates. The plan, however, is making but a ſlow progreſs.

Minerals.—There are both free-ſtone and lime-ſtone in the pariſh; but none of them are wrought. The tenants, however, have liberty from the Earl of Moray, the proprietor, to uſe as much of the lime-ſtone as they pleaſe, for manure to their lands; a circumſtance which is of material advantage to them. The ground is moſtly incloſed, partly with ſtone dikes, and partly with hedges.

Climate and Lake.—The pariſh of Auchtertoul, is about 5 miles diſtant from the ſhore to the eaſt, and 4 to the ſouth. In conſequence of this ſituation, the air is reckoned good and

healthy; being neither ſo near the ſea, as to render it too thin and penetrating, nor at ſo great a diſtance from it, as to render it thick and unwholeſome. There is only one ſmall lake in the pariſh *(Camilla Loch)*, in which there are ſome perch. The lake takes its name from the old houſe of Camilla*, adjacent to it; which was ſo called after one of the Counteſſes of Moray, whoſe name was Campbell.

Population.—With reſpect to the ancient ſtate of the population, it cannot be exactly aſcertained. But from the regiſter of marriages and baptiſms, which extends as far back as the year 1675, compared with the regiſters that are kept at preſent, it appears to have been formerly conſiderably more populous than it is now. This ſeems owing to the practice of uniting farms, which has taken place here, as well as in many other parts of the country. What uſed formerly to be 2 or 3 farms, is now thrown into 1, and rented by the ſame tenant; ſo that the number of families in the pariſh, is thereby decreaſed; and as there is no trade or manufactures carried on in the village, to draw the people in from the country, the population is conſiderably diminiſhed. Since 1755, that diminution has amounted to 55, the population, at preſent, being 334, and according to Dr. Webſter's return, having been 389 ſouls. This taſte for enlarging aad uniting farms, which ſeems

* Its ancient name was *Hallyards*, when it belonged to the family of the Skenes. It is ſaid to have been the rendezvous of the Fife lairds at the rebellion in the year 1715. When James Vth of Scotland was on his road to the palace of Falkland, after the defeat of his army on the Engliſh border, under the command of Oliver Sinclair, his favourite, he lodged all night in the houſe of Hallyards, as he paſſed, where he was courteouſly received by the Lady of Grange, "*ane ancient and godlie matrone*," as Knox calls her. It ſeems then to have belonged to the Kirkcaldies of Grange, a family of conſiderable note in the hiſtory of Scotland. It is now a ruin.

ſeems to be on the increaſe throughout Scotland, will perhaps, eventually, be unfavourable to the population of the country, and moſt undoubtedly to the perſonal character and morals of its inhabitants. It forces the people from the active, healthy employments of a country life, to take refuge in manufacturing towns and populous cities, which may literally be ſaid to be the graves of the human ſpecies. It is accordingly obſerved, of towns in general, and of large manufacturing towns in particular, that the inhabitants are of a more ſickly and delicate appearance, than their neighbours in the country. This may ariſe from the operation of various cauſes. From the ſedentary life, to which they are accuſtomed, which enervates and enfeebles the conſtitution; from the impure and unwholeſome air, which they are conſtantly breathing; and above all, from the habits of diſſipation and profligacy, which are always too certainly contracted, in any great concourſe of people. And, as it is from towns like theſe, that our armies and navies are moſtly ſupplied with recruits, it is eaſy to ſee, how ill fitted, men, of ſuch a deſcription and mode of life, will, in time, become for defending the liberties and deareſt rights of their fellow citizens, and enduring the watchings, the dangers and the toils, which are incident to the profeſſions of the ſoldier and the ſailor. It was the ſame body of men, that, on the banks of the *Thraſymenus*, and the *Auſidus*, humbled the pride of the Roman eagle, and empurpled the field with patrician blood, who were afterwards routed on the plains of *Zama*, though ſtill fighting under a leader the foremoſt in the world, whoſe very name was almoſt ſufficient to ſecure him of victory. But the luxuries of *Saguntum*, according to the Roman hiſtorian *, had enervated and enfeebled the victorious Carthaginians, and rendered them an unequal match for the hardy Romans, over whom they had ſo often triumphed.

* Livy.

Evils like theſe, may not indeed be very ſenſibly perceived or felt, for a conſiderable time: But, though their operation may be ſlow, yet it will not, on that account, be the leſs certain; nor the leſs to be dreaded in its tendency and conſequences, as an accelerator of national weakneſs and decline. But in our ardour to extend our manufactures and our commerce, and thereby to multiply the delicacies and luxuries of life, as well as to increaſe our taſte and deſire for the uſe of them, we perhaps but too readily forget, that human nature is but too liable to temptation and corruption, and that infirmity of body, and depravity of mind, are, ſooner or later, the almoſt certain conſequences of every great aſſemblage of our ſpecies. We perhaps but too readily forget, that the proſperity, the ſtability, and the glory of nations, do not conſiſt ſo much in the *wealth*,—no, nor even in the *numbers*, of their inhabitants—as in their political, their military, and their perſonal character and virtues;—as in the penetration and the depth of mind, which they are able to diſplay, in diſcovering where their true intereſts lie; in the promptitude and the ardour, with which they are, at all times, prepared to guard and to defend their rights; and in the practice of thoſe private and public virtues, which are alike conducive to the welfare and ſtability of kingdoms, and the perfection and aggrandiſement of the ſpecies.

The preſent ſtate of the population, and the diviſion of the inhabitants, in this diſtrict, is pretty nearly as follows:

Number of ſouls,	334	Number from 20 to 50,	140
——— of males,	148	——— 50 to 70,	43
——— of females,	186	——— 70 to 100,	19
——— in the village,	231	——— of farmers,	9
——— in the country,	103	Average number of their families,	9
——— under 10 years of age,	89	Number of male ſervants, including cotters,	31
——— from 10 to 20,	52		

Number

Number of female ditto, -	14
—— of day labourers, -	8
—— of wrights, -	2
—— of ſmiths, -	1
—— of ſhoemakers, -	1
—— of tailors, -	2
—— of millers, -	1
—— of brewers, -	1
—— of innkeepers, -	2
—— of bakers, -	1
—— of weavers*, -	17
Number of examinable perſons of the Eſtabliſhed Church,	105
—— of Seceders, -	20
The proportion between bachelors and married men, is as - -	36 to 48
The proportion between the annual births and the population, is, as -	10 to 334
—— between the annual marriages and the population, as - - -	3 to 334
Each marriage, at an average, produces children, -	5
Annual average of births,	10
—— of marriages, -	3
—— of deaths, as nearly as can be collected, -	4
Number of inhabited houſes in the pariſh, - -	80
Average number of perſons in each houſe, - - -	4
The population, in 1755, was	389
Decreaſe, - - -	55

Productions, Agriculture, &c.—There is no map of the pariſh; but, in as far as can be aſcertained, there are in it from 1700 to 1800 acres; which are laid out nearly as follows:

In paſture, -	1135	In turnips and cabbage,	56
— ſown graſs, -	110	— peaſe, - -	14
— oats, - -	293	— flax, - -	15
— barley, - -	81	— meadow, - -	45
— wheat, - -	33		

* The reaſon, why there is ſo much greater proportion of weavers in the pariſh, than of any other trade, is, the weaving manufactures, which are carried on, in the neighbouring towns of Kirkcaldy and Link-town of Abbotſhall. It is from theſe, that the greateſt part of our weavers receive their employment; and it is this, which draws in ſo many of them to ſettle in the village. A great part of the women too, who reſide in the village, are employed in ſpinning lint to the ſame manufacturies. They ſpin on the two-handed wheel, and are able to earn from 6d. to 8d. per day, according to their particular alertneſs and dexterity.

There are paſtured in the pariſh,

Sheep, - -	106	Cattle, - -	338

There are uſed in agriculture,

Carts, - -	24	Ploughs, - -	20

There is one threſhing machine lately erected.—The ſtile of farming is, in general, carried on after the new plan of huſbandry, and is much improved of late years. This ſeems chiefly owing to the introduction of ſown graſs, cabbage and turnips. The former ſerves to give reſt and ſolidity to the ſoil, and prepares it for the production of future crops; the latter cleanſes and pulveriſes it, and opens it to receive the influences of the ſun and air, the great quickeners and foſterers of vegetation. The hay, thus raiſed, is ſold, at an average, about 4 d. per ſtone, and brings a good profit to the farmer. Cattle are brought into the houſe, ſome time between Michaelmas and Martinmas, and fed on turnips for ſeveral months, when they are ſold to the butcher, about the end of winter, or beginning of ſpring. This practice, independent of the advantage, which the ground receives, by preparing it for the turnips and cabbage, together with the weeding and hoeing which are afterwards given it, and independent of what profit is to be made of the cattle, which are ſometimes bought cheap, and ſold dear, gives, moreover, a great command of dung to enrich the reſt of the land; a circumſtance of capital importance to the country farmer, who cannot find manure to buy; and which is, of itſelf, perhaps, ſufficient to recommend the feeding of cattle, although few other advantages attended it.

The land is generally plowed with 2 horſes; except where it is wet or ſteep, when 3 are uſed. But there is a diviſion of opinion as to the uſe of the new and the old plough; ſome preferring

preferring the one, and ſome the other. It is however likely, that the new will ſoon become the moſt prevalent.—The pariſh does more than ſupply itſelf with proviſions.

Church, &c.—The Earl of Moray is patron; and to that noble lord the whole pariſh belongs, excepting 1 farm, which is the property of William Wemyſs, Eſq. of Wemyſs. Neither of the heritors reſide in the pariſh. The ſtipend is, 53 bolls 3 firlots of meal; 26 bolls 3 firlots 1 peck 2½ lippies of bear; and 150 merks in money. The manſe has been lately repaired. The church is old; but it cannot be aſcertained when it was built. The glebe is ſmall.

Schools.—The ſchoolmaſter's ſalary is 100 merks. The annual average number of ſcholars is about 25. The ſchool wages are 1 s. *per* quarter for reading, and 1 s. 6 d. for writing and arithmetic. The ſchoolmaſter is alſo ſeſſion-clerk. The appointments for this are 13s. 6d. Sterling of ſalary; with the perquiſites on marriages, viz. 5 s. for feuers and tenants; and 3 s. 6 d. for ſervants and houſeholders. The records of the ſeſſion extend as far back as the year 1670.

It is truly amazing, that ſo uſeful and laborious a body of men, as the ſchoolmaſters of Scotland, ſhould, in general, be not only ſo poorly appointed in ſalaries, but oppoſed ſo keenly by the gentlemen of landed property, in their attempts to better their ſituation. If it be chiefly owing to education, that man is rendered ſuperior to the animals around him, and one man to another; if it be a principal mean of advancing his happineſs and beſt intereſts, both in this world, and that which is to come; if, moreover, in a political view, it opens the mind to a ſenſe of the advantages and bleſſings, which men derive from order and good government, in oppoſition to anarchy and confuſion, and renders a nation leſs apt to be miſled

miſled or convulſed, by deſigning and ſeditious men; if the riſe and the fall of kingdoms, have, in all ages, been chiefly produced by moral cauſes; and if the morals, the opinions, and the behaviour of men, be intimately connected with the inſtructions they receive, and the principles they imbibe, during their early years;—if theſe things be ſo, the inſtruction and education of youth ought certainly to be reckoned a matter of primary concern, in every well regulated ſtate; more eſpecially by thoſe, who ſit at the helm of government, and are entruſted with the management of public affairs. But how is it poſſible, that the purpoſes of public inſtruction ſhould be properly attained, in the preſent ſituation of many of our ſchoolmaſters, with reſpect to ſalaries and appointments? Is it in truth to be expected, that any perſon, who has been at the expence of an education, ſufficient to qualify him for being a teacher and inſtructor of youth, ſhould betake himſelf to that irkſome and laborious profeſſion, when the emoluments are ſo poor, (in country pariſhes eſpecially, where the ſchool wages are ſmall, and there is no opportunity of raiſing a large ſchool), as to be inferior to the wages of a day labourer, or a common ſervant? The time will certainly come, when the eyes of the nation will be opened to their own beſt intereſts, as well as to thoſe of their fellow creatures; and this uſeful body of men will be placed in circumſtances, more likely to enſure the great ends of education, and public inſtruction, both to individuals, and the community.

Poor.—The number of perſons receiving charity, at preſent, is 6; and they are ſupplied by the ſeſſion, as their ſituation and neceſſities ſeem to require. The annual average amount of contributions at the church door, is 41.; the money received for the uſe of the mort-cloth, and fines for irregular marriages, 3 l.; and there is a fund of about 80 l. lent out at intereſt.

Miſcel.

Miſcellaneous Obſervations.—The pariſh is ſupplied with coals from the neighbouring pariſh of Auchterderran: The diſtance may be from 2 to 3 miles. The price is 18 d. for as many as 2 horſes can eaſily draw on a cart; and the ſame ſum for driving them home.—There is 1 public road goes through the pariſh from E. to W. It is kept in repair by the ſtatute labour. Each plough of land pays to it annually 10s. Sterling; half a plough pays 5 s., and downward in the ſame proportion. Each houſeholder, not on the poor's roll, pays 18 d. annually.—Both men and women ſervants wages have riſen greatly of late. Men ſervants uſed to get 6l. Sterling for the year; and women, 2l. 10s.: But a man ſervant, now, receives 8 l.; and a woman 3 l., for the year. The cauſe of this ſudden riſe in the wages, is the manufactures, which are carrying on in the ſea coaſt towns, together with the repairing and making the roads through the country, which employ a great number of hands, and render ſervants ſcarce as well as dear. A day labourer's wages are 14 d. or 15 d. *per* day.

NUMBER

NUMBER VIII.

PARISH OF CARLUKE.

(County and Presbytery of Lanark—Synod of Glasgow and Air.)

By the Rev. Mr. JAMES SCOTT.

Name, Situation, Extent, &c.

THE name of this parish is of uncertain derivation. Some think that the letter *k* has been sunk in the first syllable, for ease of pronunciation; and though it is now pronounced *Kirlook*, that it was originally Kirklook; particularly, as, in the immediate neighbourhood, Kirton, and Kirstile, is put for Kirkton, and Kirkstile. In regard to the last part of the name, it was formerly written with a double *o*, and may have been derived from its local situation, as it commands a very extensive *look*, or prospect to the S. and S. W. Others, preserving its present form (Carluke), make it of Gaelic origin; and are of opinion, that it denotes a place of worship, dedicated to the saint of that name, and that it properly is the *Kirk of St. Luke**. The village of Carluke is

* From the History of Sir WILLIAM WALLACE, the ancient Scotch warrior, it appears, that, about 500 years ago, when the place of worship stood in the low ground, near the river Clyde, the name of this parish was *Kirk-forsh*, or

is about 5 meaſured miles from Lanark, on the road leading to Glaſgow; about 10 from Hamilton, 19 from Glaſgow, and 33 from Edinburgh. The pariſh itſelf is about 7 miles in length, from the Clyde to its boundary on the eaſt; and fully 4½ in breadth. It muſt therefore contain upwards of 30 ſquare miles. It may be obſerved alſo, that the higher part of the pariſh of Carſtairs, (*Moſſplat*), was originally in this pariſh, and ſtill continues to pay ſtipend to the miniſter of Carluke.

Surface, Soil, &c.—This pariſh riſes conſiderably above the level of the ſea, its higher grounds being nearly equal to the Kirk of Shotts, while its lower grounds are little higher than the Holms of Dalziell and Hamilton. It has, on this account, a great declivity, and, in the upper parts, is very much waſhed by the heavy rains from the S. and the S. W. From the oppoſite ſide of the river Clyde, this pariſh is ſeen to the greateſt advantage; and the numerous orchards, natural woods, and modern incloſures, which enrich its banks, afford a pleaſant proſpect of cultivation. As the propoſed road from Lanark to Hamilton, on the ſouth bank of the river, is ſoon to be carried into execution, theſe beauties and improvements will be more acceſſible to the eye of the public. The Clyde, as far up as the Fall at Stonebyres, uſed formerly to

or the Kirk of the Foreſt. Accordingly, in the lower part of this pariſh, there is ſtill a large diſtrict much interſperſed with natural woods, called the *Bradwood*; and the ſirname *Foreſt* abounds more among the people here, than in any other pariſh perhaps in Scotland. At that time, the kirk ſtood in a foreſt, near the Clyde, on a piece of riſing ground, where the preſent farm houſe of Mauldſlie-mains ſtands, and which, among the old people here, ſtill retains the name of *Abbey Steads*.

It need hardly be obſerved, that the Scotch word *Kirk*, for a place of worſhip, approaches nearer to the original Greek, Κυριος, οικος, than the Engliſh word, *Church*, and ought perhaps to be made uſe of, at leaſt in Scotland.

be well ſtocked with ſalmon; but ſince the erection of a dam at Bothwell, for the uſe of a cotton mill, few get up, but in high floods. Some faint attempts have been made to get this grievance redreſſed; but as yet they have been ineffectual.

As this pariſh is not much encumbered with muirs, moſſes and mountains, it is moſtly under the plough. The ſoil, however, is of very different qualities in the different regions of the diſtrict, On the river Clyde, which may be called the firſt and loweſt region, the holm ground is of a free and fertile nature, producing (as it is ſaid here), "meal for corn *," and ſometimes more. But on the banks riſing behind the holms, the ground is ſteep, and the ſoil a fine mellow clay, many yards deep; and is therefore, in general, covered with woods and orchards. As the ground riſes to the eaſt, in what may be called the ſecond region, the ſoil is of a clay quality, with a hard bottom, requiring much labour and culture to render it productive; but, when attended to, it ſufficiently repays the farmer's induſtry. In the middle, or third region, about the kirk, and the eſtates of Kirton and Whitehall, the crofts are naturally rich and loamy, though not far from the till. But the more diſtant fields (the "*out-fields*" as they are here called), though plowed ſometimes to keep them in proper paſture, are generally ſhallow and poor, with a bad bottom, and very unproductive. In the fourth and fifth regions, the ſoil, even in the out-fields, becomes more deep and earthy; yet, being in ſome degree mixed with moſs, and leſs favourably ſituated as to climate, it brings, at laſt, much leſs meal into the granary, and leſs money into the pocket of the farmer, who chooſes to keep it under the plough.

Agriculture,

* That is to ſay, a boll of oats, gives a boll of meal.

Agriculture, Graſs, &c.—Of late years, the manner of farming here is very much changed to the better. On the lower and more fertile grounds, the gentlemen farmers have, in ſome meaſure, adopted the practical part of Lord Kaimes's ſyſtem, ſo far as is ſuited to their ſoil; and make alſo much uſe of the inſtruments of huſbandry preſcribed by him. In this they find their account: yet the inferior claſſes of farmers follow them but at a diſtance; for being unable to expend ſo much, they only copy the more eaſy and leſs expenſive parts of the gentlemen's example. So far as they go, however, they reap great advantage: For after deriving much benefit from a prudent rotation of crops, they are able to lay down their ground in proper order, and to draw about 5 l. Sterling from each milk cow they paſture, and ſometimes more, if the cow is ſo large as to be of 6 l. or 7 l. value. In the higher parts of the pariſh, the chief object of cultivation ought to be graſs; and now, in general it is ſo *.—The milk

* Of the mode of graſs farming, in the fifth and higheſt region of the pariſh, the following plan is particularly approved of. The farm is firſt drained and incloſed, and, if poſſible, good roads are made, even through the moſt ſwampy parts of it. Such places as have already a good ſward, are laid dry by a *ſheer feather* plough; the ruſhes are cut, and the field top dreſſed with lime or dung, or both together. To bring the ground to a proper form, a certain quantity is broke up each year; plowing it out towards the furrow, and taking a crop of oats. Before winter ſets in, all that is intended to be fallowed next ſummer, is ribbed; that is, every third furrow is turned up. This, it is thought, has the double advantage, of opening an immenſe number of drains to diſcharge the water, and of expoſing the ground to the air and froſt. During ſummer, they continue to throw out occaſionally every 3d furrow, till the whole is plowed to the level. This is called *rib-fallow*. They find, they can work it at all times, and in all weathers (froſt excepted), as the fallow is always dry. Laſtly, they break it acroſs the ribs, and draw it up twice into ſtraight ridges, from 6 to 8 feet broad, taking care, that no water lodges in any part of the field. They ſow the ground, thus fallowed, with oats and graſs in ſpring; and at any time during ſummer, they ſow, with graſs alone, ſuch parts of the land as will admit

of their cows, mixed with peaſe-meal, they uſe in feeding their plough horſes, which they find does very well, and is a great ſaving of oats. In the ſpring, they plant as many young trees, as they can well overtake, to raiſe ſhelter for their high lands. The plan mentioned in the note, has been followed on a very extenſive farm, which was cultivated at great expence, being only in the infancy of its improvement. The ſame method is, in ſome meaſure, adopted by ſeveral farmers in the neighbourhood. It muſt, however, be obſerved, in regard to graſs farms in general in the higher parts of the pariſh, that, to this day, ſome are managed as they were centuries ago; and yet, that, from the advance in the prices of cattle, calves, butter, cheeſe, &c. one of their little cows will bring them about 4 l. or 4 l. 10 s. per ann. In the high grounds, therefore, it may be ſuppoſed, that they have more profit by keeping their grounds in graſs, than by cultivating oats, &c. But though their grain is of a bad quality, and ſeldom yields more than two thirds in meal; yet, in order to prevent ruſhes, in the wet ſoils, they are obliged to plough every 3d and 4th year: And, where the ſoil is drier, they find it neceſſary to plough every 5th or 6th year, to prevent it from running into heath. In regard to the rent of the pariſh, it has nearly doubled within theſe laſt 30 years; ſome ſay more than doubled; eſpecially in thoſe places, which are moſt favourably ſituated, in point of ſoil and climate.

Farms,

mit of it. In ſowing graſs, they lay dung on the ſurface, with lime above it; then ſow and roll. When their dung is exhauſted, they harrow in the lime with the ſeed. They endeavour to raiſe cabbages, carrots, turnips and potatoes, for winter feeding; yet they ſay, they prefer the potatoes to the turnips, after a fair trial of both. Such parts of their fallow, as they may be prevented from ſowing before the end of Auguſt, by the wetneſs of the ſeaſon, they throw into drills of 4 feet, and allow to remain till the enſuing ſpring.

Farms, Rents, &c.—The farms here, are not in general large. The greateſt corn farms are rented at from 30l. to 130 l. Sterling. Unleſs it be in the beſt holm ground, or near the village of Carluke (where the people pay higher for conveniency), the firſt kind of croft land pays from 1l. to 1l. 10s. Sterling per acre. The ſecond ſort, from 10s. to 15s. The beſt out-field land (unleſs in more ſheltered ſituations), from 3s. to 6s.; and the worſt, from 2 s. to 3 s. The traveller, in paſſing through this pariſh, can form but an imperfect idea, of the quality of the ground in general, as the public roads happen to be carried through the moſt barren and uncultivated fields; the crofts of the villages of Carluke and Killcaigow excepted. Here the lands are rich and loamy, and the crop generally plentiful and luxuriant. On an average, the land may ſell here, at from 25 to 30 years purchaſe. In the roll of converſion for the ſtatute labour, the number of plough-gates, as they are here called, amount to about 68, beſides cottagers, &c. As to *ſervices*, there are none worth mentioning required of the tenants.

Orchards.—Fruit abounds more in this pariſh, than any other upon the Clyde, or perhaps even in Scotland *. The orchards in this diſtrict, extend about 5 miles, and are the property of many different proprietors. They comprehend, in

* The following liſt contains the names of the principal apples and pears growing here, though there are many other kinds of fruit trees, not diſtinguiſhed by any particular names.

APPLES.

Early, or Summer Apples.	*Middle, or Harveſt.*	*Late, or Winter.*
Junetine	White Cluſter	Yorkſhire Greening
Amber	Queen of England	Nonpareil
Chucket Egg	White Ledington	Green Ledington
Lady Apple	Bloodheart	Grey Ledington

Lady's

in all, upwards of 80 acres of land. Many natural cauſes may be aſſigned, why this pariſh ſhould be ſo remarkable for its fruit; particularly the following: *1ſt*, The ſoil at the bottom of the banks, being a pure clay, ſeveral yards deep, is more favourable for fruit, than even the holm ground itſelf: *2dly*, The holm being narrow, and the banks on each ſide nigh to each other, the heat is greatly increaſed, by the rays of the ſun being reflected from the oppoſite banks: *3dly*, The banks being ſteep, and opening often into boſoms, afford a ſhelter by nature, which no art could ever produce. The *laſt* advantage ariſes, from the fortunate expoſure to the S. and S.W., the moſt favourable that this country can poſſibly enjoy.

Climate,

APPLES, *continued.*

Early, or Summer Apples.	*Middle, or Harveſt.*	*Late, or Harveſt.*
Lady's Lemmon	Dumbarton Pippin	Winter Strawberry
Summer Strawberry	Whiſtleberry	Golden Pippin
Millford	Salmon	Pearmain Apple
American Pippin	Common Codling	Hathornden
Kailbed	Lemmon Pippin	Naked Apple
Dryly Pippin	Hamilton Pippin	Nonſuch
Garrion, &c.	Moncrief	Green Cluſter
	Marrow	——— Calendar
	Lady's Finger, &c.	Ely
		Fulwood
		Golden Monday
		Graſs Apple
		Redſtreak
		Coal-houſe
		Carſterphan
		Sheep-head
		Carſe of Gowrie
		Purſe-mouth
		Royal Codlin, and ſeveral ſorts of Ruſſets.

PEARS.

Climate, Diſeaſes, &c.—The air here, is thought to be as pure and ſalubrious, as in any part of Scotland. Hence few epidemical diſtempers have prevailed in this pariſh, even when raging in other places, owing perhaps to the S. and S. W. expoſures, and the quick circulation of air, which our ſituation muſt neceſſarily occaſion. There are many inſtances of longevity in this pariſh. There were 3 in the ſame family, (a brother and two ſiſters), all above 80 years of age, and alive at the ſame time. Two died lately at the age of 89, and other 2, who had lived to the advanced period of 99. A complete year elapſed, not long ago, without the death of a full grown perſon. At preſent, there are ſeveral people living here, all above the age of 80 *.

Springs,

PEARS.

Summer.	*Harveſt.*	*Winter.*
Fairmaid	Swan Egg	Muirfowl Egg
Crawford	Cornock	Achan
James	Bergamot	Brier Buſh
Green Pear of Pinkie	Viccar	Winter Bergamot
Early Lemmon	Buſh	Winter Warden
Lady's Lemmon	Laugh	Pear Iron
Kedder	Gray Good-wife	Pear Wilſon, &c.
Gold-knap	Biſhop	
Miniſter	Longoville	
Jargonell	Pear Urie	
Farrow Cow	Gray Honey	
Saffron, &c.	Robhind, &c.	
Robhind, Early		

* The Iliac Paſſion, within theſe few years, has proved fatal to 6 or 8 in this pariſh. It is proper to mention, that injections have proved the moſt efficacious remedy in this diſorder. A young man lately, who had been afflicted with it for 18 days, and every dangerous ſymptom had appeared, was entirely relieved by the frequent uſe of them.

Some

Springs, Minerals, Hills, &c.—There is no river or ſtream, of any conſiderable ſize, the Clyde only excepted, along the banks of which the pariſh lies for 4 or 5 miles. There are a few mineral ſprings, which are thought to be ſerviceable in curing the ſcurvy, ſtomachic complaints, &c. Calcined metals, and petrified vegetables, are found in different quarters; but there are no remarkable volcanic appearances.——Coal abounds every where. In general, however, the ſtrata which have been as yet diſcovered, are thin, not exceeding 26 or 30 inches. In one quarter of the pariſh, indeed, moſtly belonging to the Earl of Hyndford, there is one vein, or rather ſeveral rich veins, from 7 to 10 feet deep. Free-ſtone, lime and iron-ſtone, are found, almoſt in every part of it.—There is no eminence meriting the name of mountain. There are, however, ſeveral little hills, called *laws*, which have had, or ſtill have cairns

Some diſeaſes may be ſtated, as ariſing from fancy, or a diſordered imagination merely. An old man died here ſome time ago, who had, for upwards of 20 years, believed himſelf to be tormented by a magician. "This magician," as he deſcribed it, "by means of a mathematical head reſembling his, opened his "ſkull every night, and dropt into his brain red hot needles, which produced the "moſt painful and excruciating torments." Though naturally active and laborious, this fancy at laſt diſabled him for work. In every other reſpect, he was perfectly reaſonable, and appeared to have the free exerciſe of his underſtanding.—There is a woman alive here at preſent, who has, for more than 30 years, been occaſionally poſſeſſed with a dumb ſpirit. When this ſpirit of dumbneſs, indeed, leaves her, ſhe makes ample amends for her long ſilence. But ſhe is generally ſeized with it again in a year or two. She then appears to have forgot the uſe of ſpeech; and, for years, her teeth are ſo fixed together, that it is with the utmoſt difficulty ſhe can receive the neceſſaries of life.—A whimſical, but *pious* old man, died lately, who, from his extreme humility, and *miſtaken* reſpect to the doctrines of *grace*, reſolved to abandon the practice of good works for *ſix weeks*; leſt (as he ſaid) he ſhould be tempted to boaſt of them, or to reſt on them alone, to the diſhonour of his Maſter, and as if meriting at the hand of God. Of his having adhered to his reſolution, a female domeſtic gave to the world, about 9 months after, a *pregnant* and *living proof*.

cairns of ſtones upon them, and bear marks of great antiquity. In the great cairn of Mauldſlie Law, there was lately found an urn, of a round, or rather oval form, in which had been depoſited the bones of a human being. In digging nigh the top of the hill, great quantities of aſhes and burnt materials were found. On the S. W. corner of the hill, there is a place which ſtill retains the name of Gallowlie. There, the gallows ſtood, on which, during the reign of the feudal ſyſtem, the ancient barons were wont to execute offenders. The priſon, with a dark ſubterraneous vault under it, ſtood near the top of the hill. Of theſe *Laws* as they are called, there are no leſs than 6 in this pariſh: thoſe of *Mauldſlie*, *Carluke*, *Killcaigow*, *Garby*, *King's* and *Cock Laws*. From the King's Law, on the N. E. corner of the pariſh, a part of 13 or 14 ſhires may be ſeen, when the atmoſphere is favourable. On Mauldſlie Law, there were more cairns than one. In the greater part of thoſe above mentioned, human bones have been found by the farmers, in urns of different ſizes.

Villages.—There are ſeveral villages; but all of them on the decline, except Bradwood and Carluke. The cauſes of this, in the more remote villages, appear to be, the conſtant drain to the manufacturing towns of Glaſgow, Paiſley, &c.; the number of hands employed in the coal, iron, and cotton works in the neighbourhood, and the inclination which many farmers, in the decline of life, now have, to lay out what money they may have ſaved, on building houſes adjoining to the public roads, or in ſuch villages as theſe roads run through, where ſomething may be eaſily gained, and their money better ſecured, than in the hands of their brother farmers, of whom many, of late, have failed. There are indeed many farmhouſes built lately in this pariſh, on new improvements. But

the village of Carluke increaſes more rapidly than any other. From conſiſting, about 24 years ago, of 4 or 5 houſes, with little trade, it is now advanced to a large and decent village; ſo that it finds employment for a ſurgeon, a baker, a vintner, and ſeveral grocers. There are alſo in it, butchers, weavers, ſtocking-makers, maſons, tailors, wrights, inn-keepers, road-makers, haberdaſhers, and coopers; and even ſome milliners and mantua-makers, in the town, or near to it. A new village, it is ſaid, is ſoon to be built, or feued out, on the road leading to Killcaigow, under the patronage of the Meſſrs. Glens; and a cotton work to be erected nigh it, to be driven by a ſteam engine.

Heritors and Population.—There are, in all, about 60 heritors of this pariſh, of whom 40 pay ſtipend. The Earl of Hyndford, the principal heritor, has his ſeat here; and, in May 1792, laid the foundation of his new caſtle, at Mauldſlie. The number of inhabitants, though upon the increaſe, is not ſo great as might have been expected. The reaſons already aſſigned, in a great degree, account for it. In 1755, the whole inhabitants of the pariſh were ſtated by Dr. Webſter at 1459. They amounted, about 25 years ago, to 1592: and in Auguſt 1792, the number was 1730. From the pariſh regiſter (which perhaps is not very accurately kept), it would appear, that the annual average of births, marriages and burials, for 10 years paſt, is as follows: births, 40; marriages, 18; burials, 28. The proportion between males and females, for the ſame length of time, appears to be, nearly, as 11 to 10.

Eccleſiaſtical State, &c.—There is only one place of public worſhip in this pariſh, and one eſtabliſhed miniſter. The kirk

kirk is a very old one, 90 feet long. There are ſtill to be ſeen within its walls, ſeveral veſtiges of the Roman Catholic worſhip, viz. The fount, veſtry, &c. with a chancel and choir to the eaſt; all which ſhew, that it muſt have been built before the Reformation. There are here, neither Jews, Papiſts, nor Epiſcopalians. The manſe was built about the beginning of this century; was repaired, and declared ſufficient to the preſent incumbent, about 29 years ago; but another repair was found neceſſary very lately.

Kirk Lands, Religious Houſes, &c.—In this pariſh, there are ſome kirk lands that pay no ſtipend, but have been burdened with graſs to the miniſter, viz. the two farms of Kirton and Kirſtile. On the S. E. near the houſe of Lee, there is a religious houſe, or hermitage, of great antiquity, which is called *St. Oſwald's Chapel*; and nigh to it there is a ſmall field, called *Friar's Croft*, which ſufficiently indicates its origin. On the W. corner of the pariſh ſtood another Popiſh chapel, of which there is now no veſtige. The place where it ſtood, ſtill retains the name of *Chapel Yard*; and the remains of it, it is ſaid, were dug up by the preſent proprietor. Both theſe chapel yards, and the lands adjacent, pay ſtipend to the miniſter, in common with the reſt of the pariſh. So alſo do the Hoſpital lands of Eaſter, Weſter and Middle Seats (called *Hoſpital Shields*). Theſe Hoſpital lands pay annually to the family of Lee the ſum of 60 merks (20 merks each), which that family is obliged by charter to repay annually, along with 20 merks from St. Leonard's Lands, Lanark, to the poor of the pariſhes of Carluke and Lanark. The reddendo of each charter was lately called for, and now recorded in the pariſh regiſter here *.

* When the huts in the higher grounds were only yell ſhields (or ſhields for yeld and young cattle), with huts for the reſidence of ſuch as attended them in the

Schools and Poor.—A new ſchool houſe was built here very lately, and a ſalary of 200 merks Scotch ſettled on the ſchool-maſter.

the ſummer ſeaſon, the original farm houſes on the Clyde were called *Mains*, and ſeem to have been the manſion houſes (as in the North Highlands to this day), where the principal part of the family reſided throughout the year. Such were the Mains of Mauldſlie, Milton, Waygateſhaw, Bradwood and Heads: all comprehending, at a former period, lands running up into the higher part of the pariſh.—There are, in this pariſh, 3 places alſo called Halls, which merit ſome attention. *Hall-Bar*, *Hall-Craig*, and *Hall-Hill*. Hall-Bar, in the ſouth of the pariſh, is an ancient ſquare tower, of a venerable appearance, with a battlement and garden on the top. There is a concealed ſtair leading up to the battlement and garden. It is built upon a rock, in a pictureſque, romantic, and very inacceſſible ſituation. It is evident, from its form and ſituation, it muſt at ſome period have been a place of ſtrength; but the traditions concerning it are very uncertain. Though the lands of Bradwood, around it, have been feued out by the families of Lauderdale and Carnwath, they have choſen to retain this tower and ſmall garden, with free "iſh and entry," which they only rent at about 10 s. Sterl. per annum; from which it is probable they conſidered it as a valuable piece of antiquity. Whether it has ever belonged to the Lockharts of Bar, in Ayrſhire, is not known.—Hall-Craig is a modern houſe at preſent; but on the promontory of the rock on which it ſtands, it appears, that there was formerly a place of ſtrength, from which it has got its name. A part of the old hall is yet viſible on the very pinnacle of the rock. The veſtiges of ſome walls and vaults have been diſcovered within the garden; and lately, there was dug up, when dreſſing the ground, a cauſeway, leading in to the point of the promontory.—Hall-Hill is adjacent to the Earl of Hyndford's new gardens, near to the ſite of the Old Abbey, referred to in the beginning of this account. As this hill ſtands juſt at the entrance to the holm, or rather on the holm itſelf, it may, from this circumſtance, more probably have derived its name, than from its vicinity to the old hall of Mauldſlie, which ſtood more than 200 yards to to the N. W, in a *lee*, or ſheltered ſituation, beyond the rivulet. Perhaps it ſhould be called Haugh-Hill; it being a ſingular thing for a hill to be in a haugh or holm. The baſe of this little green mount is evidently artificial, and its contents, except a ſmall part on the weſt, a rich, black earth from top to bottom. Many human bones have been diſcovered in it. A man digging into the hill lately, on the ſouth ſide, ſtruck upon a large quantity, as if part of a charnel houſe. The incumbent, when walking upon it, found ſeveral human bones

maſter. Though the fees were lately increaſed, yet they are ſtill ſuch as not to bear hard upon the poor, and at the ſame time

bones, thrown up lately by planting young trees upon it. Having made a pit on the top, to the depth of 6 feet, even there, many bones were diſcovered; and the ſoil itſelf, at that depth, was much blacker than any croft in the pariſh. That he might ſatisfy himſelf with regard to the bones being human, he ſhewed them to ſeveral medical gentlemen, who all aſſured him that they were. It is therefore preſumable, that this hill was the family tumulus, where the *Miles* of Mauldſlie were buried; and for that reaſon might have been originally called *Haugh-Kill*, in oppoſition to *Haigows-Kill* (or *Hadzows-Kill*), which lies in the higheſt part of the pariſh: *Kill*, in Gaelic, ſignifying a tomb. This circumſtance alone, however, can ſcarcely account for ſuch a vaſt quantity of bones, and rich black earth, in one tumulus. It is therefore probable, as this little hill is ſo nigh the ſite of the old Abbey, that, about 3 or 4 centuries ago, when the pariſh increaſed ſo as to be inhabited towards the Shields, and when the kirk was found neceſſary to be erected at Carluke, as more convenient for the whole inhabitants; that at that time, this tumulus would be made the repoſitory of the bones and conſecrated earth that would be found in the Abbey-Steads at removing the kirk, and turning the ſacred ground into ſuch paſture, or arable ground, as the ſpirit of theſe ſuperſtitious times would permit. There are 3 circumſtances that ſeem to favour this conjecture. *Firſt*, The ground where the Abbey ſtood, is now a clay of as pure a quality, and white colour, as the adjoining fields; which, without ſome excavation, can ſcarcely be ſuppoſed, after being a burial place for perhaps near 1000 years. *Secondly*, The whole earth on the mount, appears of a blacker and much richer quality than any to be found (but in kirk-yards), within many miles of it, even blacker and richer than the fatteſt earth in the oldeſt burying ground in Carluke kirk-yard; this laſt having been only employed as burying ground for 3 or 4 centuries at moſt. *Laſtly*, It does not appear, that the family of Mauldſlie had taken up any burying ground at the kirk of Carluke till about the end of laſt century, when their preſent aiſle was built. From this it is probable, that the family, before that time, muſt have buried ſomewhere elſe than at Carluke. It does not appear, that they had buried on the Abbey Steads, as there is no tradition, or viſible veſtige of it. It is therefore probable, that they buried their dead on the top of the tumulus, where the whole ſacred earth of the Abbey Steads had been collected. Accordingly, the ſummit was flattened, and ſo continues to this day. Stones have tumbled from it, which appear to have been uſed, either in a tomb, or ſome building of decent architecture.

time afford good encouragement for the labours of the teacher *. The emolument, on the whole, may be from 30 l. to 35 l. Sterling per annum.

As this pariſh abounds with coal, and, in the higher parts, alſo, with peat and turf, it is more burdened with poor than ſome others. Upon an average, there are no leſs than 30 conſtantly upon the poors liſt; and the amount of the annual diſtribution, is, I believe, about 80 l. Sterling. This ſum is raiſed, partly from the intereſt of money mortified for that purpoſe, and partly from collections at the kirk. But what further may be required, to ſatisfy the neceſſary annual demand, is, according to act of parliament, appointed by the heritors to be levied from the heritors and houſeholders; each of theſe claſſes being burdened with one half of it. Such heritors, however, as reſide within the pariſh, beſides paying as heritors, pay alſo as houſeholders, as they occupy houſes and farms, which otherwiſe being rented to tenants, would have borne their proportion of the houſeholders half in the aſſeſſment. But, in order to aſſeſs properly, and to be judge of the neceſſary demand for the time, the heritors meet, according to act of parliament, on the firſt Tueſdays in February and Auguſt, to determine on theſe matters †.

Roads,

* The ſchoolmaſter's fees, per quarter, are as follows:

Engliſh,	L. 0	1	6
Common rules of arithmetic,	0	2	0
Higher parts of arithmetic,	0	2	6
Latin,	0	2	6
For Engliſh, from the poor,	0	1	0

† See Lord Kames's Abridgement. If a female, who is able to ſpin, but is lazy, is, after giving an inventory and diſpoſition, put upon the poor's liſt, the heritors give her only in proportion to what ſhe earns; a fourth, a third, or half perhaps, according as ſhe appears to need. Before, however, ſhe can receive this, ſhe muſt produce the yarn merchant's atteſtation of what ſhe ſpins.

Roads, &c.—Through this pariſh there is one great turnpike road, leading from Glaſgow to Peebles, &c. It is well made, and has on it ſeveral toll-bars, though none in this diſtrict. At the village of Carluke, a branch goes off to Lanark, made by the ſtatute labour. Since the ſtatute work was converted into money, the pariſh roads are, in every reſpect, improved; ſo that the communication is now more eaſy, and the farmers property, adjoining to the roads, ſecured from damage *.

Mills,

* With reſpect to articles of proviſion, their prices of late have very much advanced; ſo that, where the farmer has many commodities to diſpoſe of, he can afford to live eaſy, pay a reaſonable rent to the proprietor, and even ſpend ſomething extraordinary himſelf. Fowls, eggs, butter, veal, lamb and mutton, all ſell at very high prices. Within theſe laſt 20 years, they are doubled; which is ſeverely felt by annuitants of every deſcription. Beef and mutton, in the markets here, are equal in quality to any in Edinburgh or Glaſgow; and they ſell nearly at the ſame rate. Horſes and cows have alſo doubled their price within theſe 20 or 30 years. Amidſt theſe revolutions, the poor farmer of a few acres, at 10 l. or 20 l. rent, who can with difficulty ſupport his family on the produce of his ſmall farm, ſuffers the moſt. He has nothing to ſell, perhaps ſomething to purchaſe. The cottagers and day-labourers, when compared with him, are affluent and comfortable. It is natural to inquire, whence this increaſe of price in every article of proviſion (grain alone excepted) can ariſe? Is it that the number of conſumers have multiplied in an equal proportion to this advance?—or that the modern modes of farming have diminiſhed, rather than increaſed the quantity produced?—No: the increaſe of the conſumers, upon the whole, is by no means in proportion to this advance of price, as we ſee from the ſtatiſtical accounts already publiſhed; and we know from fact, that many farms bring more than double in the market, and none leſs, than they uſed formerly to do. Whence then does it proceed? Among the many other cauſes to which this may be aſcribed, perhaps the principal one is, the great increaſe of banks in Scotland and England, and the enormous quantity of paper which they circulate, which ſinks the value of money, inſomuch, that in purchaſing many of the neceſſaries of life, a ſum of money will not go half ſo far as it uſed to do. And though the different kinds of grain are more ſtable and fixed in their prices than other things, this is evidently owing to the corn laws with reſpect to importation, of which the farmers complain ſo loudly.

Mills, &c.—In this, and the whole higher parts of Clydeſdale, there are no mills for grinding wheat, which is a great diſadvantage. In this pariſh, however, there are 5 common corn mills. The firſt, and probably the only corn mills in this country for ſome time, were thoſe of Mauldſlie, which perhaps may have derived its name from *molo*, to grind. The mills of Mauldſlie appear to have comprehended, at firſt, what is now called Milton, and alſo 3 or 4 mills on the lower part of Carluke Burn. At that time, there was a wooden bridge (the veſtiges of which are yet viſible), fitted up in the rocks at Milton, to make the communication to theſe mills eaſier from the ſouth and weſt on the oppoſite ſide of the Clyde: and farmers on the eaſt, at the diſtance of about 7 miles, were bound, by charters, to grind at the mills of Mauldſlie. It appears alſo, that, about 500 years ago, King Robert Bruce was proprietor of theſe mills; for it is recorded, that he granted 10 merks Sterling, out of his mills of Maldſlay (ſo it was then written), for the purpoſe of keeping a lamp perpetually burning upon the tomb of St. Machute at Leſmahago*. There was lately found, near the foot of the pariſh, the remains of a hand-mill, which had been uſed for grinding before the period of water mills. It is a very large whin, or muir, ſtone, ſo ſcooped into the form of a large baſon, as to receive a leſſer ſtone correſponding to it, with a handle.

Antiquities, Eminent Men, &c.—Some Scotch coins, as ancient as Alexander I. have been found in this pariſh, both at Chapel-Yard, and St. Oſwald's Chapel. From S. E. to N.W. runs the Roman Road, called here *Watling's Street*, (perhaps a corruption of *Vitellius's Street*). In ſome places, eſpecially at Killcaigow-Law, it is ſtill ſo viſible, that the manner of its

* See Spotiſwood.

its formation can eaſily be aſcertained. The Romans appear to have placed broad ſtones in the bottom of the road, where the ground was ſoft, and broke others very ſmall, with which they covered him. Roman coins at Burnhouſe and Caſtle-hill were found in the direction of this road, and a deſcription of them was lately given in the Scots Magazine.—Robert Cockburn, A. M. aged 89, who wrote many tracts in favour of Chriſtianity, died, and was buried here a few years ago. This pariſh gave birth to Major General William Roy, whoſe character and abilities as a mathematician, &c. are well known *. Here alſo were born, the Reverend Dr. Robert Dick, late miniſter of Edinburgh, and the Reverend Mr. James Roy of Preſtonpans; both very eminent in their profeſſion.

Miſcellaneous Obſervations.—Two countrymen in this pariſh, have long employed their ingenuity in endeavouring to diſcover the *perpetuum mobile*; but, like all others who have embarked in the ſame cauſe, their attempts have as yet been unſucceſsful.—Some time ago, a woman in this pariſh brought her huſband ſix children at two ſucceſſive births. The three firſt are alive, and doing well.—A few years ago, a young woman was married to an old man of 80, who, after living for ſome time with his ſpouſe, gradually declined and died. The relations began to divide his little eſtate among them, in conformity to the will of the deceaſed; when, to their great ſurpriſe, the *diſconſolate* widow diſcovered ſymptoms of fruitfulneſs, and, preciſely 8 months and 16 days after the old man's death, gave to the world a fine ſprightly youth, who now inherits the whole property of the deceaſed.—Though the people here, are, in general, of the ordinary ſize, yet an old man died ſome time ago, of the age of 90, who was about 7 feet

* See Scots Magazine for July 1790.

in height; and there are at present some alive, 6 feet and upwards.—In the year 1789, the orchards in this parish produced such a plentiful crop, as to yield in all, for fruit, above 500l. Sterling, besides about 200l. for the under growth.—On March 12th 1782, the river Clyde rose so high (being, in the more confined places, about 4 feet higher than ever known), that several mills on the other side were swept away, and the ground on this side much damaged, by being cut with the stream, and covered with gravel. In the same year, and also in 1783, the people in this parish, like many others, were in very great want of grain, occasioned by the general failure of the crops. What they had from their farms, was much damaged, especially on the higher grounds; but, by occasional supplies of pease from Leith, and the kind attention and liberal contributions of the more opulent heritors, the poor here were so well provided for, that none of them suffered from want.

Advantages and Disadvantages.—The principal disadvantages, under which this parish labours, appear to be the following:—Though the ground stands much in need of dung, and some of it cannot be made very productive by lime alone, yet, by lying at a distance from large towns, that sort of manure cannot easily be procured, but in the small quantities which the farmers themselves produce.—This being a clayey country, in some places, during the drought of summer, the cattle are at a loss for want of water, and are thereby liable to certain diseases, well known to the farmer, which, in the woody part of the country, are particularly prevalent.—As there is a continual drain from the parish, both of young men and women, to the neighbouring cotton mills, iron works, &c. the farmer is often at a loss for labourers; and servants wages are thereby rendered much higher, than the master can well afford

afford at preſent, being, from 6 l. to 10 l. per annum for a man; and, from 3 l. to 4 l. for a woman. A young and vigorous day-labourer, can, with difficulty, be procured; and (victuals excluded), he receives, from 14 d. to 15 d. a day, during the ſummer; ſo that the farmers now begin to perceive, that it is their intereſt to encourage cottagers, and to ſubmit to the riſk of being thereby burdened with a heavier poor's rate. Indeed, as we are in this pariſh attentive to the poor, and well ſupplied with fuel, we have generally many labourers reſorting here in the decline of life; but from them no labour of importance can be expected, for any conſiderable time; and, unleſs we are watchful, in terms of law, they may ſoon become a burden upon the pariſh.—From the quick declivity of this pariſh, the ground is apt to be waſhed down much faſter by the rains, than in other places; ſo that the manure laid upon it, is ſooner exhauſted; and the ditches, by collecting a larger body of water, ſtand in need of conſtant repair, and in ſome ſteep ſituations, can ſcarcely be at all kept up.—In the clayey part of the diſtrict, the materials with which the roads are made, partaking of the nature of the ſoil, and being of a ſoft quality, the roads themſelves ſtand in need of conſtant attention and expence.—Being expoſed to the high winds in harveſt, the crop, when ripened, is in danger, and therefore, in prudence, it muſt be cut down, ſooner than we would otherwiſe chooſe to do. In the lower part of the pariſh, however, they are expoſed, during the hay and corn harveſt, to great inconveniences in wet ſeaſons, from the want of a free circulation of air.

But though the pariſh labours under theſe diſadvantages, yet there are alſo circumſtances in its favour, which tend to counterbalance them. Being at a moderate diſtance from Glaſgow, and within a few miles of 2 iron works, and 3 cotton mills, commodities of all kinds are ſold to good advantage.—Though

there is a ſcarcity of dung here, yet we are well ſupplied with coal and lime, and in ſome places with moſs and turf for compoſt. And the land is of ſuch a quality, that it does not of itſelf (like a weak or ſandy ſoil), ſoon exhauſt what is imparted to it.—Though we are ſo nigh public works as to inſure the ſale of every commodity, we are ſeparated at ſuch a diſtance from them, as to be leſs in danger of having the younger people corrupted by them, in their morals and principles *.

Character.—The character of the people, in general, is very reſpectable; and it is much to their honour, that, after living

* The utility of the following regulations has been ſenſibly felt by the inhabitants here. 1. Diſputes having often ariſen with regard to particular burying grounds, a plan of the whole kirk-yard was lately formed (in which different layers, after a public advertiſement, were accurately aſcertained, by marking and deſcribing every man's property, in regular order, upon it, with his name and number, beginning at a certain corner of the kirk-yard), which was lodged, with a correſponding catalogue, in the hands of the pariſh-clerk, to which every perſon may now have recourſe, when occaſion requires. 2. The inconvenience and loſs by acts of theft, &c. which many ſuſtain by encouraging the vagrant poor of other pariſhes, we have endeavoured to prevent here, not only by making liberal proviſion for the poor of this pariſh, and reſtraining them from ſtrolling, under the penalty of a forfeiture of their allowance; but alſo by following out ſtrictly the rule of St. Paul, "If any would not work, neither ſhould he eat." (2 *Theſſ.* iii. 10.) and the laws of our country with reſpect to idle vagrants. (*See Lord Kaimes's Abridgement*). 3. Many orchards upon the Clyde having of late been much injured, by ſome malicious perſons, the gentlemen here have contributed liberally towards the eſtabliſhment of a fund, for proſecuting according to law, and bringing to deſerved puniſhment, ſuch atrocious offenders in future; and it is found to have a very good effect. 4. As in many places, children at ſchool ſuffer much, even under the care and attention of the moſt able and faithful teachers, from the ſcholars being more numerous than any one man can poſſibly do juſtice to, the heritors of this pariſh have reſolved to obviate, in ſome degree, this inconvenience by the following proviſion: Should the number of ſcholars at any time amount to more than 50, the pariſh ſchoolmaſter is obliged to employ an aſſiſtant for the benefit of his lower claſſes. This aſſiſtant he generally chooſes from among the more advanced of his ſcholars.

living among them for about 30 years, the preſent incumbent can ſay with truth, that they are in general of good underſtandings, moderate in their views, and of humane diſpoſitions. Among thoſe who attend the Eſtabliſhed Church, there is ſcarce an inſtance, either of wild enthuſiaſm, or of a perſecuting and cruel ſpirit. Profanity, drunkenneſs, ſwearing, diſhoneſty, &c. are by no means prevalent. The general body of the people, are regular in their attendance on public worſhip, ſober and virtuous. No child murder has been known to be committed here in the memory of man. The diſcipline of the church has been always exerciſed with mildneſs. In ordinary caſes, only one appearance is now required, and antenuptial fornication diſmiſſed with a ſeſſional rebuke, like a private marriage; ſo that none are hardened by frequent appearances; and marriage is encouraged in all. To conclude; in ſome parts of this pariſh, much benefit is derived from the great improvement which has been lately made, by gentlemen of taſte and public ſpirit, in the houſes of their tenants.—By being built neat and commodious, well aired, and properly lighted, they are found to cheriſh, among thoſe who inhabit them, a ſpirit of cleanlineſs and cheerfulneſs, and to contribute materially to their health. In ſuch places accordingly, the people can live with more comfort and happineſs than formerly; they aſſociate more frequently together; they cultivate their farms more vigorouſly; they procure better prices for their commodities; and, being thus enabled to dreſs more decently, and to make a better appearance on public occaſions, they have thence an additional inducement, to attend with more regularity, the important ordinances of religion.

NUMBER

NUMBER IX.

PARISH OF CANISBAY.

(*County of Caithneſs.*)

By the Rev. JOHN MORISON, D. D.

Origin of the Name.

IT is not known that the pariſh ever had any other name, than what it now bears. Caniſbay has been ſuppoſed by ſome to have been originally written Canonſbay; others conjecture it to have ſome connection with the Latin vocable *Canis*. It is, however, more probable, that Canute's-Bay was its firſt appellation, in honour of the arrival of ſome Norwegian chief of the name of Canute. There is indeed no account of the deſcent of ſuch a chief upon the coaſt, nor is there any bay in the pariſh now denominated Caniſbay. But as all the places of the leaſt note in the pariſh, are clearly of Norwegian derivation, it cannot be ſuppoſed, that the name of the diſtrict itſelf ſhould be an exception.

Situation and Extent.—The pariſh of Caniſbay being the moſt northern land in the iſland of Great Britain, is ſituated in the latitude of 58° 45′ N., about 2° of W. longitude from London.

London. The figure of the pariſh is remarkable for its regularity, exhibiting to the eye the exact quadrant of a circle, the arch of which divides it from the neighbouring pariſhes towards the land, and the two containing ſides from the ſeas that waſh its coaſts; Dungiſbay Head is in the vertix of this quadrant, from which the coaſt ſtretches in a ſtraight direction due S and due W. till it meets with Wick pariſh on one hand, and Dunnet on the other. Each of theſe lines may be reckoned 8 Engliſh miles in extent. The whole ſurface of the pariſh may be computed to occupy about 50 ſquare miles or upwards.

Soil, Surface, &c.—Caniſbay is rather a level than a hilly diſtrict. The Warth Hill is of conſiderable height and magnitude, and is the only one in the pariſh deſerving the name. The Loch of Mey is about 2 Scotch miles in circumference. There is no river, and only a few rivulets (the chief of which is the Burn of Freſwick), in the whole pariſh. A ſingle ſtone (ſea-rock excepted) of any conſiderable magnitude, is no where to be ſeen above the ſurface of the earth. There are mineral and freſh water ſprings in abundance. The former are all of the chalybeate kind. There is one of excellent quality near the old caſtle of Freſwick. Heath in general prevails, where agriculture has not reached. There are, however, conſiderable tracts of green paſture land, in different diſtricts of the pariſh, which require only the advantages of cultivation to be made productive. A light black loam, with an intermixture of moſs, is, where cultivation prevails, the general character of the ſoil. The reſt is entirely moſs, reaching, in ſome places down to the ſea brink, and yielding peats in the greateſt abundance, and of as good quality as any in the kingdom.

kingdom. The lands about Mey, belonging to the Earl of Caithneſs, have an intermixture of clay.

Climate.—The climate is diſtinguiſhed by variable, rather than tempeſtuous weather. Remote from the mountains, which attract moiſture and occaſion rain, fair weather is not unuſual. The winters are generally mild and open, froſts are ſeldom intenſe, or of long continuance. The ſnow never thickens to any depth, and the coaſt is ſcarcely ſprinkled by it, while in more inland pariſhes it lies to a conſiderable depth. The level ſituation of the pariſh, and the ſea ſurrounding it on every ſide but one, may be regarded as the cauſes of this temperature. The ſummers in Caniſbay, for the ſame reaſon, are temperately cool; and high winds are, in general, more prevalent than heavy rains. The Aurora Borealis begins to exhibit itſelf about the middle of harveſt. In no part of Britain is it to be ſeen to more advantage. At times, from the ſhifting brilliancy of its vivid corruſcations, the whole heavens ſeem to be in motion: at other times a ſettled bloody tinge prevails over all the ſky; and on theſe occaſions, the whole phenomenon appears truly awful and magnificent. All its appearances ſeem to prove that it is the effect of electricity.

Longevity and Diſeaſes.—There are few diſtricts where more good health is enjoyed than in Caniſbay. The inhabitants in general live to a good old age. There are ſeveral at preſent in the pariſh betwixt 90 and 100. Many die at an advanced age, without the recollection of a day's illneſs in the courſe of their lives. The moſt prevalent illneſſes among the people, are thoſe ariſing from obſtructed perſpiration, owing to the variableneſs of the weather, and perhaps ſtill more, to the raw and unwholeſome vapours transfuſed into the atmoſphere they breathe, from the extenſive tracts of fen, muir and moſs in their

their vicinity, while colds, coughs, and rheumatiſms are not unfrequent. Fevers prevail as little here, perhaps, as in any corner of the world. Inoculation is not yet in general practice; but though few eſcape the ſmall pox, the diſeaſe is ſeldom mortal, Indeed, moſt other diſeaſes are extremely rare. Few pariſhes, therefore, give leſs trouble or emolument to phyſicians, than Caniſbay.

Population. There are 382 families in the pariſh, including thoſe in the iſland of Stroma. The number of males is 881, and of females 1069, total 1950. The return to Dr. Webſter in 1755, was only 1481 ſouls. The population has therefore increaſed 469 within theſe 40 years. The advancement of civilization, the free enjoyment of property, a better cultivated ſoil, the multiplicity of families on ſmall farms, and more extenſive employment in fiſhing and the other maritime occupations, may be conſidered as the operative ſources of this increaſe. As theſe cauſes acquire additional energy, proportional effects may be expected. Were the waſte grounds cultivated, and ſome little branches of manufacture eſtabliſhed, the yearly produce of the ſoil, and the number of ſouls in the pariſh, might amount to a third more, than what they now are. The following liſt ſhews the number of births, deaths, and marriages, for the laſt 4 years.

Years.	*Births.*	*Deaths.*	*Marriages.*
1787	65	19	12
1788	70	23	13
1789	66	18	12
1790	73	27	16

Rent and Proprietors.—The whole valued rent of the pariſh amounts to 3855 l. 3 s. 6 d. Scotch. The real rent may be computed at about 1300 l. Sterling. From 1200 to 1500 bolls of victual are yearly exported, beſides maintaining the inhabitants. Land is divided into what are called penny lands, halfpenny lands, farthing lands, and octos. Eight octos are reckoned equal to 12 acres. The rent of an acre, at an average, is not below a guinea. In ſome places it is 30 s. or upwards. The Earl of Caithneſs, Robert Sinclair, Eſq. of Freſwick, and the family of Brabſter, are the only proprietors in the pariſh. Brabſter is an inland property, lying in the centre of the diſtrict. All the other cultivated lands are ſituated on the coaſt, extending, at an average, about half an Engliſh mile from the ſhore. There are alſo frequent interjections of moſs and moor, reaching down to the ſea coaſt, and dividing one cultivated diſtrict from another.—Hence it is apparent, how ſmall a proportion of this extenſive pariſh is as yet brought into cultivation.

Cultivation and Produce.—The medium extent of farms does not exceed the ſum of 9 l. Sterling yearly rent. By this multiplicity of families, the ſoil is brought up to the higheſt pitch of cultivation.—Oats and barley, in alternate crops, with the addition of ſome flax and potatoes, are the ſole objects of agriculture. The ſoil, at an average, yields about 5 returns of oats, and above 7 of barley; but in ſome particular ſpots, no leſs than 11 returns of barley have been reaped.—From Martinmas till ſpring, the dung of the cattle is left in the byre; a bedding of dry earth or peat mold is thrown above it every day, which mixes with the dung, and, at the ſame time, keeps the cattle warm and dry. A cart load of this compoſt is reckoned more valuable as a manure, than three of pure dung, particularly, if thrown out and expoſed to the weather

through

through the winter; but the principal manure along the coaſt, is tang or ſea ware: it comes aſhore in the greateſt abundance during the ſpring months, when it is moſt needed. A wind blowing from the land brings the ware from the ſea.—This manure is ſolely appropriated to the barley crop. It is a powerful cleanſer of the ſoil, coaleſces with it in the ſhorteſt ſpace, exerts and exhauſts its nutritive virtues in the nouriſhment of one crop. In whatever manner it is laid upon the field, it is a manure of the firſt eſtimation. Dunghills conſiſting of earth and ware, of 6 or 12 month's ſtanding, ſeem the moſt eligible preparation of this valuable manure for the ſoil. From the conſtant uſe of ſea-ware as a manure, along with the conſtituent qualities of the ſoil, the cultivated lands in moſt parts of the pariſh, are as fine and friable as garden mould, and are cultivated in general with leſs ſtrength, than, comparatively ſpeaking, is found requiſite in other places of the country. The ſoil being perfectly clear of latent rock, the plough is made of the ſlighteſt conſtruction; and, in general, both plough and cattle do not exceed 10 l. Sterling in value *.

* Oats are begun to be ſown about the firſt week of April, and barley about the 12th of May, nor is the ſeaſon gone for the ſowing of the latter ſo late as the 21ſt of June. Harveſt begins about the 1ſt of September, and is in general finiſhed in the courſe of a month. Gray and black oats are the common growth of the pariſh, as they are over all Caithneſs. They unqueſtionably accord better with the ſoil and climate, than the white oats. The latter is not only a greater robber of the ſoil, but is far more liable to ſhake in harveſt, than the former. Bread of the white oats is ſtronger, and perhaps ſomewhat fairer, but by no means ſuperior in taſte and mellowneſs.—A man ſervant gets little ſhort of 3 l. Sterling *per annum*, and a woman half as much. Day labourers are ſeldom employed: They may be had at about 9 d. *per* day without victuals. Maſon and joiner work is fully higher than in any part of Scotland. Carts are in common uſe throughout the pariſh.

Propoſed Improvements.—As neither incloſures nor winter herding, have as yet taken place, green crops are of courſe unattended to, among the common people. The proprietors and gentlemen, whoſe attention is directed to farming, carry on their operations on a more liberal and extenſive plan. Improvers, converſant in every branch of agricultural employment; with farms worth 100 l. or upwards, of yearly rent; incloſures, green crops, implements of the moſt approved conſtruction, and labouring cattle of due ſize and eſtimation, are what juſtly entitle them to the appellation of farmers. Their praiſe would be great indeed, if, by granting longer leaſes to the tenants, they could perſuade them once to begin the buſineſs of incloſing, and the culture of waſte ground, which cries aloud, and has cried for ages, for the advantages of the ſpade and the plough. In former times, and even theſe not long elapſed, unlimited ſervices were unqueſtionably a part of the equivalent, which tenants paid for the lands they occupied. Beſides money and victual, a vaſt variety of different articles was demanded from the farmer. A ſyſtem of that ſort ſuggeſts a variety of reflections, with which the dignity and happineſs of man are deeply connected. Theſe cuſtoms, as they are called, are now for the moſt part converted into money. Unlimited ſervices are no longer exigible. In one half of the pariſh, two days in ſpring, and two in harveſt, are the ſtipulated ſervice; nor is this invariably exacted. From the operation of preſent arrangements, in a very ſhort time the other half will be equally free. *Emancipation* is every where prevailing, and the monſter *Feudaliſm* is hiding his head in ſhame.

Black Cattle and Paſturage.—Caniſbay, notwithſtanding its boundleſs extent of hill paſture, is not to be reckoned a cattle pariſh. To deſcend to a particular enumeration, of the horſes and

and black cattle in it, could answer little purpose, when it can be asserted as a fact, that not above one third, of the foals or calves, is reared and brought up in the parish, that are necessary for the culture of the soil. Grass is one of the principal wants we have to complain of. The arable soil is so precious, that the farmer thinks, he could not bear turning any part of it into grass. The want of inclosures and winter herding, precludes him from the advantages of green crops. The best grass farm in the parish lies on the north coast, about an English mile from Dungisbay Head. It is sufficient for the support of 30 cows, and yields butter, which, for colour and quality, is deservedly held in the highest estimation.

Sheep.—It is not believed, that the whole sheep in the parish at present exceed 2000. Foxes, dogs, bad seasons, and, above all, the inattention of the owners, are the causes of the diminution of their number, to a third part of what they formerly were. They are far from being of a very good quality, either for wool or mutton; nor has any attempt been made to meliorate the breed. The parish in general is not naturally possessed of pasturage favourable for the rearing of sheep. There is one place in it, however, that seems to recommend itself for the pasturage of sheep, and for nothing else.—This is *Dungisbay Head* and its environs, which might be adequate to the support of 600 or 700 sheep. The Head itself is every where covered with green to the very brink of the surrounding rock, with an intermixture of short young heath. The situation is dry and the air wholesome. The Head communicates with the *Warth Hill*, which would relieve the pasturage occasionally. Upon the whole, it is hardly to be doubted, that sheep would prosper on this pasture, if duly attended to; and it were greatly to be wished, that the proprietor or possessor would make the experiment.

Swine,

Swine, &c.—There is a ſuperabundance of ſwine throughout the pariſh: they are of a ſmall ſize, fatten well, and their fleſh is peculiarly tender and delicate; but the damage they do, in the winter ſeaſon, to the graſs and corn lands, as they are allowed to roam at large, far exceeds any advantages, that can accrue from the rearing of them. Geeſe and other poultry are alſo in great plenty, though not above half the number are reared, ſince what was payable in kind to the proprietor, has been converted into money.

Average value of the above Animals.

	L.	*s.*	*d.*	
An ox, -	3	0	0	Beef ſells at 2½ d. *per* lb.
A cow, -	2	10	0	
A horſe, -	3	0	0	Mutton at 2 d.
A ſheep, -	0	6	0	
A ſow, -	0	12	0	Pork at 2 d.
A gooſe, -	0	1	6	
A hen, -	0	0	5	A dozen of Eggs 1½ d.

Coaſts.—Dungiſbay Head, the *Berubium* of Ptolemy, is ſituated in the N. E. corner of the iſland of Great Britain, where the line of the coaſt, from a northern direction, turns directly due weſt, and continues its courſe, till it reaches Cape Wrath, with little or no variation in its rectilinear direction. This beautiful promontory is of a circular ſhape, about 2 miles in circumference. Towards the ſea, which encompaſſes two thirds of the Head, it is one continued precipice. On the land ſide, you deſcend by a gentle ſlope into a deep valley, having a ſmall moſſy rivulet running through it, which terminates the Head on that quarter. Near the top of the rock, and on that ſide which faces the Orkneys, there is a vaſt gulph or cavern, (called, by the neighbouring inhabitants, the *Glupe*), ſtretching all around perpendicularly down, till its duſky

duſky bottom comes on a level with the ſea, with whoſe waves it holds communication, by an opening at the baſe of the intervening rock. The bridge betwixt this fearful chaſm, and the edge of the main rock, towards the ſea, is about ſix yards wide. On the higheſt part of the head, about 50 yards from the edge of the precipice, there are to be ſeen indubitable marks of ſome houſe, or manſion, heretofore erected by the hand of man. Its baſe, which is all that now remains, is perfectly circular, and about 20 feet wide. It has probably been occupied as a watch tower, or place of obſervation, correſponding with another, the veſtiges of which are to be ſeen on the top of Warth hill, at about the diſtance of 2 miles.

South from the Head, for about 5 miles, the Warth hill extends its baſe to the ſea brink. The coaſt is every where exceeding bold, and the wild and varied magnificence of the rocks are peculiarly ſtriking to the eye of a ſtranger. Beyond, for about a mile, the coaſt ſubſides into a beautiful ſandy beach winding around the bay, till it reaches the manſion-houſe of Freſwick. Here the coaſt again reſumes its boldneſs, which continues with little variation, till it reaches the confines of the pariſh. The lands adjacent to the ſhore, for the laſt 3 miles, (a little moor ſouth of Freſwick excepted,) are all under cultivation. The coaſt is beautiful; the ſoil luxuriant and productive.

The north coaſt has but little of that ſtupendous boldneſs, for which the eaſtern one is ſo remarkable. In coming down from the Head, and travelling weſtward for two miles, the walk is extremely pleaſant. The greateſt luxuriancy of growth prevails, extending from the ſhore about a mile inland. The beach itſelf conſiſts wholly of ſhells and ſhell ſand, of the pureſt white, which contribute alike to beautify the coaſt, and to enrich the ſoil. In the middle of this delightful walk, you approach the celebrated reſidence of JOHN O'GROAT; but,

although

although his name be ſtill illuſtrious, the ſpot is ſcarcely diſtinguiſhable where he dwelt. Weſtward from the burn of Dungiſbay to Huna, moſs prevails to the ſea brink. From Huna to Gills, is one of the moſt fertile diſtricts in the pariſh. The church is ſituated in the middle of it, on a green riſing ground, cloſe by the ſhore, the manſe about a quarter of a mile inland from the church. Beyond Gills, there is, along the weſt, a large tract of waſte ground, though very capable of cultivation. *Mey*, part of the property of the Earl of Caithneſs, terminates the pariſh on the weſt. This is an exceeding populous and fertile diſtrict; there are above 100 families on this part of his Lordſhip's eſtate. What he farms himſelf might rent for about 100 l. a-year.

Maritime State.—There are no ſhips belonging to the pariſh, nor harbours in it to receive them. The bays upon the coaſt are thoſe of Gills, Dungiſbay, and Freſwick, in all of which, if the weather be tolerably moderate, veſſels can lie in ſafety, and take in their cargoes; but, none of them are to be regarded as eligible ſtations in rough weather. Gills Bay is preferable to the reſt.

Kelp and Minerals.—The ſhores of Caniſbay are exceeding valuable, yielding about 100 tons of kelp in a favourable ſeaſon, which is near as much as is made in all the reſt of Caithneſs. They afford freeſtone for building, and ware for the land in the greateſt abundance. The ſhell ſhore of Dungiſbay, yields lime of the firſt eſtimation for purity and whiteneſs, and, in ſome parts of the world, would turn to conſiderable account to the owner. The adjacent lands are altogether impregnated with the ſand of theſe ſhells, which gives a peculiar activity and cleanlineſs to the ſoil. The ſuperior

luxuriancy

luxuriancy of the graſs in this diſtrict, ſeems wholly owing to the quickening influence of this calcareous manure in its neighbourhood. Near Barrogil Caſtle, is found a ſpecies of coal which emits a hot vivid flame in burning, but without much diſſolution of parts, or diminution of ſize, after it becomes extinct. It is got near the ſurface of the earth; and, in all probability, coal of a better quality may be found under it; but, the ſuperabundance of peat fuel, in the moſſes of Caniſbay, in a great meaſure ſuperſedes the neceſſity of digging for it.

Boats and Fiſhing —There are about 66 boats around the coaſt, and yet not one man who lives entirely by fiſhing in the whole pariſh. Each of theſe boats is the joint property of, perhaps, 6 or 7 different owners. The fiſh are divided according to the value of their reſpective ſhares in the boat; and, the object of fiſhing is not ſale, but the ſupport of their families. The buſineſs of agriculture, from the benignity of the ſoil, and the number of hands employed, being ſoon and eaſily diſpatched, they have abundance of leiſure every good day to go a fiſhing. Hence, every farmer in the pariſh, (the inland eſtate of Brabſter excepted,) is a fiſherman, and every fiſherman a farmer. There is, perhaps, ſcarce an inſtance known, of one pariſhioner ever ſelling a fiſh to another. Fiſh-mongers have of late engaged ſome boats, on the coaſt, to fiſh cod and ling at a ſtipulated value; but as this branch of induſtry is yet but in its infancy, it merits no particular deſcription on the preſent occaſion. On the north coaſt, the rapidity of the tides in the Pentland Frith is altogether unfavourable to fiſhing. In very ſtormy weather, cod and ling are, by the force of the billows, frequently thrown in alive upon the ſhore, and taken up by the people, who on theſe occaſions go in queſt of them. On the eaſt coaſt, the ſame difficulties not occurring, fiſhing might unqueſtionably turn to good account, if proper exertions were

made, and boats accuſtomed to make a greater ſtretch from land, before they dropt their lines. Gray fiſh, as they are called, of all kinds, abound every where around the coaſt, and conſtitute a great part of the ſuſtenance of the inhabitants. The ſhoals of young fiſh that pour into every creek and bay, about the beginning of September, are ſuch, that a boll of them may be caught at a few hawls, in the courſe of one evening. They ſeem to be the intermingled fry of various genera, and are called by the inhabitants *Sellacs*. They are tender and delicious in the higheſt degree, and, in general, between 3 and 4 inches long. While the rapidity of the tides on the north coaſt is much againſt the fiſhing of cod and ling, there is perhaps no ſtation in the world, where a lobſter fiſhing might be more ſucceſsfully carried on. The bays of Mey, Gills, and Dungiſbay, abound in lobſters to a great degree.—A few boats at Mey, for the behoof of Meſſrs. Selby and Co. of London, have been employed for the firſt time, in this branch of induſtry, this ſeaſon; and, from the ſucceſs they have had, it is to be hoped, this ſpecies of fiſhing will ſoon become general around the coaſt.

Church, Schools, and Poor, &c.—The ſeſſion records reach as far back as the reſtoration, but are not continued down without many gaps and mutilations. The whole inhabitants of the pariſh profeſs the religion of the eſtabliſhed church, except a few of the Anabaptiſt perſuaſion. The firſt riſe of that ſect in Caithneſs, was in a part of the pariſh of Wick, where a gentleman of landed property reſided, whoſe views of religion inclined him to profeſs and propagate the Anabaptiſt ſyſtem: From that diſtrict, bordering on Caniſbay, it was imported into this pariſh: It is now greatly on the decline, and never was accompanied with any ſort of outrage, wildneſs, or violence in its profeſſors. The ſtipend of Caniſbay,

bay is at preſent 6 chalders of victual, one half meal, and the other half bear, with 200 merks of money, and the ſmall tithes of the pariſh, accounted, though not equal to, 200 merks more.—Beſides the parochial ſchool, there are two ſociety-ſchools in the pariſh, with a ſalary of 10 l. each. The parochial ſchool may be worth about 18 l. Sterling. The church has very lately received a good repair, and the miniſter has been extremely well accommodated with new office houſes. The manſe, unleſs attended to, will not be of long duration. The glebe is a very ſmall one, and there is little or no graſs annexed to it.—The poor, from the ſeſſion funds, and various collections, receive, at annual diſtributions, about the ſum of 10 l. or 12 l. Sterling. The indigent are indeed numerous, yet there are few or no ſtrolling beggars in the pariſh *.

Dreſs, Cuſtoms, &c.—In Caniſbay there are no manufactures. Their common apparel is of home growth and texture, generally dyed black. Their dreſs cloaths are all imported, and in general of better quality, than their circumſtances can well afford. Both ſexes are alike ambitious to appear fine. Few country congregations are more crowded,

* The preſent miniſter has been 11 years in office, and has not been aſked for above half a dozen certificates, in behalf of indigent perſons, neceſſitated to throw themſelves upon the alms of the public. The pariſh, at the ſame time, comparatively ſpeaking, is far from being a rich one. The ſea is its great ſupport, without which, at the rate the lands are rented, it would be impoſſible for the inhabitants to live. The ſea not only ſupplies them with fiſh, but with bread alſo, from the great abundance of tang-manure, which even, in bad ſeaſons, ſeldom fails to enſure a crop. It alſo affords them employment, with ſuitable wages during ſummer, in the manufacture of kelp. A good deal is gained by pilotage, and not a little by ſea expreſſes. From theſe combined cauſes, and their being inured from their earlieſt years to habits of ſobriety and temperance, they may be ſaid to live in a ſtate equally removed from want and from abundance.

or brilliant in the ſummer ſeaſon. Meetings for dancing are very common in winter. It is then, too, that they generally marry. Their weddings are often crowded; but the entertainment is always gratuitous. There are annual emigrations from the pariſh, both of males and females in the menial line, who leave the place of their nativity, in queſt of ſuperior wages in the ſouth of Scotland. Many of the young men become ſoldiers, preferring the land to the ſea ſervice. Their character in that capacity has always been to their credit. There are few ſuperſtitious uſages among them*: ghoſts and fairies are believed to manifeſt themſelves occaſionally. There are three popiſh chapels mouldering into deſolation in the pariſh, one at Freſwick, another at Brabſter, and a third at St. John's Head. Some ſuperſtitious rites, now in total diſuſe, were wont to be performed, by the ignorant vulgar, on particular days, at theſe ſanctified ruins. At preſent, not a veſtige of popery ſeems to intermingle in the creed of the people. There are no wells of preternatural efficacy in the pariſh. There is no day in the year accounted inauſpicious, or, (Sundays excepted) held in higher eſtimation than another.

Character.—In point of ſtature, there are few of the inhabitants either much above or below the middle ſize. Being ſeldom

* No gentleman, however, of the name of SINCLAIR, either in Caniſbay or throughout Caithneſs, will put on *green apparel*, or think of croſſing the *Ord* upon a *Monday*. They were dreſſed in green, and they croſſed the Ord upon a Monday, in their way to the battle of Flowden, where they fought and fell in the ſervice of their country, almoſt without leaving a repreſentative of the name behind them. The day and the dreſs are accordingly regarded as inauſpicious. If the Ord muſt be got beyond on Monday, the journey is performed by ſea. A ſuperſtition thus derived from the heroiſm of their anceſtors, and ſo well calculated to excite a ſimilar ſpirit in their offſpring, philoſophy itſelf will allow to be preſerved from oblivion.

ſeldom employed in any ſort of labour, whoſe progreſs from its difficulty is neceſſarily ſlow, and equal, if not ſuperior, to every taſk incumbent on them to accompliſh, they often manifeſt the greateſt activity, alertneſs and diſpatch. Hence, while occupied in walking, or ſpeaking, their motion and their utterance is rather quick than ſlow. This may be partly owing to their living ſo much at ſea, where the greateſt poſſible diſpatch is ſo often neceſſary. The climate, with a train of local circumſtances, ſerves to give a particular activity to the blood and ſpirits of the inhabitants of the north. Notwithſtanding this alertneſs and pomptitude in all their operations, unleſs impelled to action from neceſſity, or the excitement of ſome particular intereſt they have in view, there are no people in the world fonder of doing nothing. During their hours of idleneſs, which are many, languor and laſſitude are never obſervable about them. The mind, having no intereſts of its own to faſten upon, exerts its power, for the ſake of employment, in making inveſtigations into the condition and character of others. Hence that ſolicitude after news, that ſpirit for prying into the moſt hidden concerns of their neighbours, with the view of gratifying curioſity rather than malevolence; and hence alſo, a more enlarged knowledge of their country, and a more extenſive acquaintance and correſpondence with one another, than obtains among the peaſantry of any other part of Great Britain. In the preſence of their ſuperiors, their ſelf-poſſeſſion, recollection and faculty of utterance never deſerts them. Their diſcernment of the purpoſes of others, and dexterity in concealing their own, are no leſs remarkable. What a pity ſuch reſpectable endowments, ſhould be left to waſte themſelves on objects, neither of public utility nor of private emolument. Were they properly called forth, and engaged in branches of commendable induſ-

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try, the gain would be great indeed, both to themſelves and to their country.

Antiquities and Natural Curioſities.—Houſes, ſaid to have belonged to the Picts, though in no reſpect remarkable, except for their antiquity, are to be ſeen in different parts of the pariſh. The proſpect from Dungiſbay Head, may be well reckoned a curioſity of the firſt diſtinction of its kind. It commands the whole of the Pentland Frith, and as far beyond it as the eye can ſtretch. The Orkney Iſles appear ſpread out in that happy point of viſion, in which ſuch objects are contemplated with the greateſt pleaſure and delight. The German Ocean to a great extent, the Murray Frith, and the hills of Banff, Aberdeen, and Murrayſhire, are all under view. No traveller, when he comes to John O'Groat's, will repent a viſit to the Head. The *Stalks* of Dungiſbay, as they are called, are two piramidal pillars of naked freeſtone-rock. They rear their fantaſtic ſummits a great way into the air, and ſtrike the eye of a ſtranger in approaching them, as the huge ſpires of ſome old magnificent Gothic pile. They are frequented in ſummer by innumerable ſea fowls, who hatch and bring forth their young about their ſides, while the eagle ſits in royalty upon their ſummits. Near to St. John's Head, upon the north coaſt, is one of the pleaſanteſt ſpots in the whole pariſh. It affords evident tokens, of having been, in former ages, a reſidence of great reſpectability; from a burying ground, and the veſtiges of an old chapel in the neighbourhood, now in total ruins, as well as from the name it bears, it would ſeem to have been conſecrated to religious purpoſes. From the veſtiges of a ditch and draw-bridge, defending it on the land ſide, it muſt have been occupied as a place of ſtrength and ſecurity; but, whether it has been the reſidence of ſaints or heroes, it affords ample proof, that neither taſte nor judgment

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were wanting, in the choice of it as an habitation. The decorations of art are alone wanting to render it one of the lovelieſt ſpots in Caithneſs. In the burn of Stempſter, is found white ſpar of the pureſt quality. When put into the fire, a very ſlight degree of heat makes it throw out a conſiderable portion of phoſphoric light, which gradually decays as the ſtone cools, and is again recruited as the ſtone is heated a-new. When reduced to a powder, it puts on an exceeding brilliant and beautiful appearance during ignition. In electrical experiments, it is a non-conductor, nor does it ſeem ſoluble in acids. About a quarter of a mile eaſt from the church, there are 2 ſprings of freſh water, at leaſt 30 yards within flood mark. Betwixt Brabſter and Freſwick there is a deep hollow, called, in the dialect of the pariſh, the *Wolf's geo*, which muſt have derived its name from being the haunt of wolves in former times. There are other circumſtances handed down by tradition, which tend to prove, that this ravenous animal was once an inhabitant of Caniſbay.

Wild Animals.—The quadrupeds are foxes, hares, otters and weaſels.—Adders are ſometimes found in the moſſes, but they are not numerous. In the links of Freſwick, Dungiſbay and Huna, there are plenty of rabbits, but they turn to little account. There are alſo moor-fowl, plovers, ſnipes, ſome partridges, and multitudes of wild pigeons in the rocks. Birds of paſſage are, the green plover, wild gooſe, ſnow-fowl, wagtail, ſwallow and rail. The ſnow-fowl, in the winter, are inconceivably numerous. The hills are exceedingly well ſtocked with the moor game above mentioned. The coaſts, throughout the year, abound in multitudes of ſea-fowl. In the ſummer months, the ſwarms of ſcarfs, marrots, faiks, &c. that come to hatch in the rocks of Dungiſbay and Stroma, are prodigious. They in a manner darken the air, when, on

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any ſudden alarm, they take wing in a body from their neſts. The gun makes frequent and bloody havock among them. They are ſhot for amuſement from boats, and the common people appropriate their fleſh and feathers to their own uſe. The ſport is cruel and unprofitable, as numbers die upon their young in the neſt, or expire before they reach the edge of the projecting ſhelve.

Planting.—There is no planting in the pariſh. A good many years ago, an experiment was made on a part of the Warth Hill. A few acres were planted with firs.—They throve very well while young; but the fence being inſufficient, and ſoon mouldering away, and the plantation expoſed to all poſſible injury, the whole periſhed, and at preſent no veſtige of it is to be ſeen. The ſpot was well choſen, and had the plantation been attended to, there is hardly a doubt, but that it would have proſpered. No charge ought to be brought againſt the ſoil and climate, as long as the exertions of induſtry are wanting to overcome the obſtacles complained of. Without a ſuitable choice of ground, both as to ſoil and ſhelter, and without proper incloſures, what ſucceſs can or ought to be expected? The burns of Freſwick, of Dungiſbay, and the winding braes of Gills, where, in defiance of the depredations, both of man and beaſt, ſome natural bruſh-wood maintains its reſidence, ſeem to claim a preference in experiments of this ſort.

Roads, Inns, Traffic, &c.—The public roads in the pariſh are thoſe leading from Huna to Wick and Thurſo, both lying along the coaſt, the one in a ſoutherly, and the other in a weſterly direction. They have never been completed, and are very uncomfortable in the winter. A third from Huna, leading into the middle of the country by Brabſter, would be a great

convenience to other pariſhes, as well as to Caniſbay. Tippling houſes are by far too numerous in the pariſh: They have undoubtedly a bad influence on the induſtry, as well as morals of the people. Three, beſides the ferry houſes, are all that ought to be allowed. From Huna, the ferry boat croſſes with the mails for Orkney once a week. From Burwick in South Ronaldſhay, the Orkney mails in like manner croſs to Huna. The diſtance there, being the ſhorteſt betwixt Caithneſs and Orkney, is reckoned 4 leagues in extent. If a paſſenger goes along with the mails, the freight is 1 s.; but if he hires the ferry boat for himſelf, it is 7 s. Although the Pentland Frith may be deſervedly accounted the moſt tempeſtuous piece of ſea, around the iſland of Britain, it is remarkable how few accidents happen in croſſing it; but the danger it threatens, ſuggeſts the means of preventing it. The time of tide is obſerved to a minute, in putting out to ſea. The boats are ſtrong and of good conſtruction; the boatmen perfect maſters of their buſineſs, and acquainted from their infancy with every circumſtance, reſpecting the variation of the tides they have to go through. In the ſummer ſeaſon, there is almoſt a continued communication betwixt Caithneſs and Orkney, in the traffic of horſes. Colts from the highlands of Caithneſs, from Sutherland and Strathnaver are ſold to Orkney; and theſe very colts, when paſt their prime, are again brought from Orkney, and re-imported into Caithneſs. By far the greateſt number of theſe croſs to and from the ſhores of Caniſbay, on account of the ſhortneſs of the paſſage. Large boats are made for tranſporting them; and the freight of each colt is 1 s., and a full grown horſe 1 s. 8 d. to the neareſt land. There are 2 petty markets in the pariſh, in the courſe of a year, one in December, and the other in February.

Language &c.—The Scotch, with an intermixture of ſome Norwegian vocables *, is the only language ſpoken in the pariſh. The pronunciation, as well as language of the peaſantry, is better than what prevails among the vulgar in more ſouthern counties.

* The names of places ſeem to be derived from the Norwegian language. *Ster*, which ſignifies an *eſtate*, is the terminating ſyllable of an immenſe number of the names of places in, Caithneſs and elſewhere. They conſiſt for the moſt part of two ſyllables, the firſt moſt probably being the name of ſome diſtinguiſhed poſſeſſor. Many maritime places, both in Caithneſs and Orkney, derive their names from ſome peculiarity reſpecting the coaſt or the tides. *Aae*, in the Daniſh tongue, ſignifies a current of water, or the particular courſe of a tide. It ſeems to claim an affinity with the Gaelic *amhne* and the Latin *amnis*, both ſignifying a river.---Where *wick* is the terminating ſyllable, the place is not only maritime, but there is always, in its vicinity, an opening of the coaſt, larger than a creek, but ſmaller than a bay, whoſe two containing ſides form an angle, ſimilar to that of the lips, terminating in the cheek. It is remarkable, that, in the Scotch dialect, this is always termed the *wick* of the mouth. It does not therefore appear, that there is the leaſt affinity betwixt *wick* and *vicus*. The former vocable is for the moſt part, if not always, maritime: the latter, from the meaning of the word, can have no poſſible reſpect to local ſituation. If *wick* were derived from *vicus*, we would find *wicks* as generally inland as upon the coaſt; and every place bearing the name of *wick* ought either to be, or to afford ſome evidence, that in former ages it had been a village. In Orkney, there are a great number of wicks, and in Caithneſs two. They are all upon the coaſt, and every one of them characteriſed by an opening in the rocks, of the particular figure above deſcribed.

From the above obſervations, the names of moſt places in Caniſbay are of eaſy derivation. *Huna* is made up of the words *huln* and *aae*. The former is the ſame as *hollow* in Engliſh, and *how* in Scotch: The latter is the tide ſtream, or current, oppoſite to the coaſt. In confirmation of this etymology, Huna is one of the loweſt lying places in the pariſh, and where the tides are leſs rapid than on other parts of the coaſt. *Stroma* is compounded of *Strom* and *aae*; the former in the Daniſh tongue ſignifying impetuous, and the latter, a current, as already obſerved. The tides around Stroma, are ſuppoſed to run at the rate of near 10 knots an hour. Freſwick is the *green wick*, from *friſh*, ſignifying green, and the figure in the coaſt ſtrikingly defined in its vicinity, which is found in every place,

counties. The better ſort, and eſpecially the fair ſex, ſpeak as well, and with as little peculiarity of accent, as their equals in any part of Scotland. There is ſcarcely a place in the whole pariſh, whoſe name is not of Norwegian derivation. The Gaelic is totally unknown in Caniſbay; nor is there a place throughout the pariſh, whoſe name indicates the leaſt affinity to that language.

Manſion Houſes.—The houſe of *Freſwick* is a modern building, ſufficiently commodious and elegant. About 25 years ago, in the month of February, the thunder broke on one of its wings, threw down a chimney top, and rent the wall from top to bottom, beſides damaging the greateſt part of the

place, where wick obtains. Perhaps it is from *friſh* that the Engliſh word *freſh* is derived, which ſometimes bears a meaning little different from *green*.

Dungiſbay Head is called, by Ptolemy, βερβεικον, a word evidently formed from the name it bore, in the days of this geographer. The Greeks had no word, in their own language, having *m* for the terminating letter; but in writing of perſons or places, among barbarians, they frequently end the vocable with *m*; perhaps that it might appear as a barbariſm, compared with the muſical ſounds of their own harmonious tongue. The word *Bery* would ſeem to have been a common appellation to ſuch places as Dungiſbay Head in thoſe times. At this day, a ſimilar promontory, in the iſland of Walls in Orkney, is termed the *Bery*. The word is clearly of Norwegian derivation. It ſignifies a place of obſervation; or a principal ſtation, for diſcovering the approach of an enemy by ſea, when at a great diſtance. The evident remains of a watch tower, on Dungiſbay Head, are a proof of what is here aſſerted. *Beretter*, in the Daniſh tongue, to this day ſignifies to communicate intelligence, to warn or give notice. The name of Warth or Varth Hill is of ſimilar derivation. *Varter*, in the above language is to attend, to wait on, or to watch for. Hence the ſpeculum on the Head, being the principal ſtation, was to diſcover and communicate to that on the Varth Hill; whereas the office of the latter was, to ſtand in waiting for ſuch information, from the former, to receive and tranſmit the diſcoveries communicated from the *Bery*. *Mey* would appear to have its name, from the early and luxuriant verdure on what is called the Bank Head, in the ſpring months. *Braſter* is the eſtate or poſſeſſion of *Brab*.

windows.—*Barrogil Caſtle* is an old ariſtocratic pile; but, renewing its age apace, under the additions and embelliſhments it is daily receiving from its noble owner. The manſion houſe of Brabſter is old, and ſituated in the moſt inland part of the pariſh. The ruins of three ancient towers or caſtles are ſtill to be ſeen; one in Mey, another ſouth of the preſent manſion houſe of Freſwick *, and a third ſituated on the weſt ſide of the iſland of Stroma: They are all built upon rocks riſing out of the ſea, have been occupied as places of defence, and, in all probability, inhabited by heroes.

Iſland of Stroma.—The iſland of Stroma is ſituated in the Pentland Frith, about a league from the ſhore of Caniſbay. It is a mile long, and half a mile in breadth. It contains 30 families, 97 females and 73 males, and rents at about 120 l. Sterling *per annum*. It is very productive in corn; but the inhabitants are obliged to ſupply themſelves with fuel, from the moſſes on the main land. The tenth ſheaf was heretofore taken in part payment of the rent. This, with all other cuſtoms and ſervices, has of late been converted, by the preſent proprietor, at the deſire of the people, into money. There are few diſcriminating features in the character of the Stromareans from the other inhabitants of the pariſh. They ſpeak the ſame language, wear the ſame apparel, and obſerve the ſame cuſtoms. The ſea is one of their principal ſources of ſupport. They are dabbling in ſalt water from their childhood upwards. From their political ſituation, and the ſimplicity, ſobriety and induſtry, natural to them, there are perhaps few iſlanders on earth happier than thoſe of Stroma. They have a ſociety ſchool in the iſland, and they come very regularly by ſea to church, when the weather allows them to croſs the ſound. On the weſt of the iſland, there is a vaſt cavern

* For a view of the old Caſtle of Freſwick, ſee Pennant's Tour.

cavern, (or *Glupe* as it is called,) at about 30 yards from the beach. It stretches down to a level with the sea, whose waves are seen pouring into it, by a narrow opening at the bottom. The sea is often exceedingly tempestuous, around the island in the winter months. The coast on the west is exceedingly bold. The tremenduous elevation of the billows, that beat against it during a storm, from that quarter, exceeds all power of description. Although the rocks are only inferior to those of Dungisbay Head, the spray is tossed above their loftiest summits, and falls in such profusion as to run in rills to the opposite shore. A reservoir, in a commodious situation, is made to receive it, together with the rain which the clouds impart; and hence, a mill is kept going in the winter months, for grinding the grain of the island. The agitation of the spray is often so great, that the water in the spring wells becomes brakish, and a salt taste prevails in the air. The tide is supposed to rise to the height of 6 fathoms from lowest ebb. During a storm from the west, the rise of the sea, on that side, is more than 2 fathoms higher, than on the east of the island. From the antiseptic influence of the salt particles, perpetually floating in the air, mummies were preserved for a great length of years, and were wont to be exhibited as curiosities, in a chapel situated in the island. The mummies are now destroyed, and the chapel is unroofed and mouldering into ruin.

Pentland Frith.—The Pentland Frith is reckoned 24 miles in length, and varies from 4 to 5 leagues in breadth. It has the Orkney Isles on the N. and the coasts of Caithness on the S., and forms a communication between the German and the Atlantic Oceans. In the mouth of the frith, and nearly half way between Dungisbay Head and the Orkneys, are situated the Pentland *Skerries*. These are two small uninhabited islands, the one considerably larger than the other, and stretching

ing a little eaſtward of Dungiſbay Head, the iſland of Stroma lying about two leagues to the weſt. The parts of the frith, moſt dangerous to navigation, are two currents, ſtretching from Dungiſbay Head and St. John's Head, to a conſiderable diſtance from land. The former is called the *Boars of Dungiſbay*, and the latter the *Main of Mey*. The billows in them are often ſwollen to a monſtrous ſize, even in the fineſt ſummer day. They ſeem to ariſe from the colliſion of tides in oppoſite directions, and recoiling with increaſed impetuoſity from the head lands above mentioned.—Without the aid of ſkilful pilotage, they are hazardous even in the calmeſt weather. The tides in every part of the frith are various and irregular, and of courſe the navigation dangerous, eſpecially in the night, where a very ſmall deviation from the proper courſe may be attended with fatal conſequences.

A Light-Houſe Propoſed.—For the above reaſons, and many more that might be advanced, there is not, around the iſland of Britain, a ſtation where a light-houſe is more requiſite, than in the mouth of the Pentland Frith. A year does not paſs, without ſome fatal accidents to ſhipping, from the want of it. Either Dungiſbay Head, or the largeſt of the Pentland Skerries, is the ſtation where a light-houſe ought to be erected. A light on the Head would ſerve to illuminate the Pentland Frith to the weſt, and the German Ocean to the eaſt, as far as the eye could diſcern it. No doubt its altitude in foggy weather is an argument, againſt it, as a ſtation for a light houſe; but, from the prevalence of winds in this quarter of the world, fogs would very rarely obſtruct the light. The Skerry alſo, would unqueſtionably be, in many reſpects, an excellent ſtation. It is eaſt of the Head, and of every part of the coaſt. From its local ſituation, it would probably yield, as ſure a guidance to ſhipping, as could be expected

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Account of JOHN O'GROAT'S HOUSE.—We ſhall conclude this paper, with an account of the moſt memorable place in the pariſh, which has often been viſited, by travellers from very diſtant countries, who, it is believed, have rarely been made acquainted with the peculiar circumſtance, which firſt gave riſe to its celebrity; its fame having been in general erroneouſly attributed, to its mere local ſituation, at the northern extremity of the iſland; whereas, it originated in an event not unpleaſing to relate, and which furniſhes a uſeful leſſon of morality.

In the reign of James IV. of Scotland, *Malcolm*, *Gavin* and *John de Groat*, (ſuppoſed to have been brothers, and originally from Holland,) arrived in Caithneſs, from the ſouth of Scotland, bringing with them, a letter written in Latin, by that prince, recommending them to the countenance

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countenance and protection of his loving ſubjects, in the county of Caithneſs. They purchaſed, or got poſſeſſion of, the lands of Warſe and Dungiſbay, lying in the pariſh of Caniſbay, on the ſide of the Pentland Frith; and each of them obtained an equal ſhare of the property they acquired. In proceſs of time, their families increaſed, and there came to be eight different proprietors of the name of Groat, who poſſeſſed theſe lands amongſt them; but, whether the three original ſettlers ſplit their property among their children, or whether they purchaſed for them, ſmall poſſeſſions from one another, does not appear.

Theſe eight families, having lived peaceably and comfortably in their ſmall poſſeſſions, for a number of years, eſtabliſhed an annual meeting, to celebrate the anniverſary of the arrival of their anceſtors on that coaſt. In the courſe of their feſtivity, on one of theſe occaſions, a queſtion aroſe, reſpecting the right of taking the door, and ſitting at the head of the table, and ſuch like points of precedency, (each contending for the ſeniority and chieftainſhip of the clan,) which increaſed to ſuch a height, as would probably have proved fatal in its conſequences to ſome, if not to all of them, had not John de Groat, who was proprietor of the ferry, interpoſed. He having acquired more knowledge of mankind, by his conſtant intercourſe with ſtrangers paſſing the Pentland Frith, ſaw the danger of ſuch diſputes; and having had addreſs enough to procure ſilence, he began with expatiating on the comfort and happineſs they had hitherto enjoyed, ſince their arrival in that remote corner, owing to the harmony which had ſubſiſted among them. He aſſured them, that, as ſoon as they appeared to ſplit and quarrel among themſelves, their neighbours, who till then had treated them with reſpect, would fall upon them, take their property from them, and expel them from the county. He therefore conjured them, by the ties of blood,

blood, and their mutual ſafety, to return quietly, that night, to their ſeveral homes; and he pledged himſelf, that he would ſatisfy them all with reſpect to precedency, and prevent the poſſibility of ſuch diſputes among them, at their future anniverſary meetings. They all acquieſced, and departed in peace. In due time, John de Groat, to fulfil his engagement, built a room, diſtinct by itſelf, of an octogon ſhape, with 8 doors and windows in it; and having placed in the middle, a table of oak, of the ſame ſhape, when the next anniverſary meeting took place, he deſired each of them to enter at his own door, and to ſit at the head of the table; he taking himſelf the ſeat that was left unoccupied. By this ingenious contrivance, any diſpute, in regard to rank, was prevented, as they all found themſelves on a footing of equality, and their former harmony and good humour were reſtored. That building was then named John O'Groat's houſe, and though the houſe is totally gone, the place where it ſtood ſtill retains the name, and deſerves to be remembered, as long as good intentions, and good ſenſe, are eſtimable in a country *.

* The particulars above mentioned, were communicated to John Sutherland, Eſq of Weſter, above 50 years ago, by his father, who was then advanced in life, and who had ſeen the letter wrote by James IV. in the poſſeſſion of George Groat of Warſe. The remains of the oak table have been ſeen by many now living, who have inſcribed their names on it.

NUMBER X.

PARISH OF NEWBURGH.

(*County and Synod of Fife.—Presbytery of Cupar.*)

By the Rev. Mr. THOMAS STUART.

Name, Situation, Extent and Soil.

THE town of Newburgh has evidently given its name to this parish; and the significant term, by which it is denominated, may have been imposed in reference to some more ancient burgh in the neighbourhood. It forms the boundary of the county of Fife, on the N. W.—The extent of the parish is inconsiderable, and its figure very irregular, one part of it being detached from the other *. The soil on the N. and E. of the town of Newburgh, where the ground is low and flat, consists of rich clay, not inferior in quality to any in the Carse of Gowrie; on the west of the town, and near to the river, where the ground rises higher, it is light and gravellish; more southerly, where the ground suddenly dips, it tends to moss; and still farther south, where the ground again rises into the Ochil Hills, it becomes, in some places, dry and loamy, in others wet and tilly. In the estate of Pitcairly, however,

* See Ainslie's map of the counties of Fife and Kinross.

however, owing to the fortunate ſlopings of the eminences, and the largeneſs of the interjacent flats, there are many fields well adapted to the purpoſes of agriculture, which have, accordingly, been brought by the proprietor, into a ſtate of fertility and cultivation.

Climate, Diſeaſes, &c.—In the hilly parts of the pariſh, the climate, although cold, is reckoned more healthy, than in the lower grounds, on the bank of the river, where the town of Newburgh ſtands. *There* the flat is hemmed in on the ſouth, by the Ochil Hills, which obſtruct the ſun's influence, while it lies open, on the oppoſite ſide, to the N. E. winds, that blow up the Frith of Tay with piercing keenneſs. Notwithſtanding this, epidemical diſtempers are not more frequent, or more fatal in Newburgh, than in other parts of the neighbouring country. Rheumatiſms and conſumptions may be ſtated, as the diſeaſes, to which its inhabitants are moſt liable. The practice of inoculating for the ſmall pox, not having become general, many children are, from time to time, loſt by that diſeaſe. In the courſe of ſpring and ſummer 1791, no fewer than 56 children died of it, in the town of Newburgh. But it may be expected, that the ſame diſtemper will not in future, find ſo many victims, as the good ſenſe, and well directed affection of parents begin to overturn any prejudices, they might formerly have entertained on that ſubject, and to engage them in taking that eaſy ſtep, for ſaving the lives of their offspring, which experience juſtifies, and which Providence, from the ſucceſs attending it, ſeems to ſanction and approve.

Rivers.—No river runs through this pariſh. The Tay, which waſhes its northern extremity, more properly forming a boundary to it, than making any part of it. But the

Tay may find a place in the ſtatiſtical account of any diſtrict, that reaches to its border. This noble river, having received the acceſſion of the water of the Earn, begins at Newburgh, to aſſume the appearance of an arm of the ſea; and, by the inhabitants of that town and neighbourhood, is denominated the *Broad Water*. When the tide in it, however, has ebbed, it leaves a conſiderable part of its channel dry; and, collecting itſelf into two currents, paſſes along the oppoſite ſides of its bed, in what are termed the *North* and *South Deeps*. The South Deep, contains by far the greateſt quantity of water, and furniſhes the courſe, which veſſels of burden uſually hold, in paſſing up and down the river. As far up as Newburgh, the Tay admits veſſels of 500 tons burden; but above the confluence of the Earn, beyond which Perth is ſituated, veſſels of 200 tons burden, when deep laden, proceed with difficulty. Veſſels, however, of about 90 or 100 tons burden, (in which the trade with Perth is uſually carried on,) eaſily make the ſhore of Perth; and when larger veſſels are employed in that trade, part of their cargoes is diſtributed among lighters, on their arrival at the ſhore of Newburgh.

Salmon Fiſhing.—Beſides being favourable to commerce, the Tay furniſhes great quantities of excellent ſalmon, the fiſhing of which has, eſpecially of late years, become a conſiderable ſource of wealth to all who have property in the river. The proprietor of that part of its channel, on the ſouth ſide, which correſponds to the length of the pariſh of Newburgh, draws about 200 l. Sterling, of yearly rent, for his fiſhings; and, in ſituations farther up, where the channel is not ſo broad, nor the tide ſo powerful, proprietors receive a much greater rent for a much leſs extent of water. What enables fiſhermen to pay ſuch high rents, is, the great price which

which ſalmon bring in the London market. The company at Perth, which rents the bulk of ſalmon fiſhings in the Tay, ſeldom expoſes fiſh to ſale in Scotland, except at Perth; but continues to ſend them to London through the whole fiſhing ſeaſon. When the weather is not uncommonly warm, or the fiſh more than ordinarily abundant, they are ſent up freſh. For conveying them, the company employs no fewer than 4, and ſometimes 5 ſmacks, of about 90 tons burden each, which are, in general, navigated by ſailors belonging to Newburgh. Theſe light, but ſtrong built veſſels, are kept running at all weathers, with almoſt any quantity of fiſh; and, as the voyage, in the fiſhing ſeaſon, cannot be long, they generally bring their cargoes to market perfectly ſound, eſpecially ſince the practice has prevailed, of packing the ſalmon in ice.—One ſituated on the border of the Tay, is pleaſed with obſerving this new and gainful trade to the capital; and cannot help admiring the ſpirited induſtry of that merchant, by whom it was firſt rendered conſiderable. At the ſame time, he may be allowed to expreſs his regret, that any advantages ariſing from a monopoly of ſalmon, ſhould prevent the inhabitants of three counties, from ſharing in thoſe delicacies, which Providence annually ſcatters in ſuch abundance upon their ſhores.

Hills and Woods.—The hills in the pariſh of Newburgh, preſent no remarkable appearance. Like the generality of hills, in that extenſive ridge, which runs, with little interruption, from the neighbourhood of Stirling, to the N. E. extremity of Fife, they are broad-topped, green, and in many places, arable.—That abrupt rock near to Newburgh, on the S. E., which excites the ſurpriſe, and ſometimes awakens the terror of ſtrangers, in paſſing along the road immediately under it, belongs to the pariſh of Abdie. In regard to woods, it does not appear, that there have been any of great extent,

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in the pariſh of Newburgh, at leaſt within the period to which its written records reach; although it is not improbable, that the wood mentioned in the hiſtory of Sir WILLIAM WALLACE, by the name of *Iron-Side*, may have anciently covered its lower grounds. Above 20 years ago, the proprietor of Pitcairly, having incloſed the greateſt part of his lands, in that quarter, with ditches and ſtone fences, run along many ſtripes, and interſperſed ſeveral conſiderable clumps of different kinds of wood, which give a cheering appearance to his eſtate, as it unexpectedly opens on the view of the traveller, in croſſing a diſtrict, otherwiſe unincloſed, and ill ſupplied with trees. Of late years, ſimilar ſteps have been taken, in the lower grounds, on the eſtate of Mugdrum; and at no great diſtance of time, the beauties of that place, naturally delightful, may be much heightened, by various well diſpoſed, and thriving plantations.

Antiquities.—At the N. E. extremity of this pariſh, near the river Tay, on a gentle riſe, in the middle of a rich, and not unextenſive flat of clay lands, appear the ruins of the ancient *Abbey of Lindores*. Concerning the hiſtory of this Abbacy, while it continued under the power of the church, or after it was erected into a temporal lordſhip, nothing material can be diſcovered, which has not already been made public. About the year 1741, the abbey, with a ſmall part of the abbey lands, which, till that time, had been retained by the family of Lindores, paſſed into the hands of the ſon of a former miniſter of Newburgh; and, by a ſubſequent ſale, have come into the poſſeſſion of the family of Mugdrum. What may have been the extent of the buildings of the abbey, in former times, one cannot judge, as part of the grounds, which they once occupied, is now converted into arable land. Remains of the church, however, are ſtill extant, which ſhew, that it

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muſt have been a large, if not an elegant building. Parts, alſo, of the garden walls are ſtill ſtanding, which ſuggeſt no mean idea of the wealth of the clergy who inhabited it, and ſtrongly mark the pains they had taken, to ſecure the delicacies and luxuries of the table. Within theſe walls, and for a ſmall ſpace beyond them, on one ſide, the ground continues to be occupied by fruit trees, which, having been long ſince planted, exhibit appearances of decay, that, viewed in conjunction with the mouldering fragments of ſtructures, half covered at top with ivy, and ſurrounded at bottom with thorn and hazel, give an air of melancholy grandeur to the place at large. That dwelling houſe, ſituated in the heart of the ruins, and occupied occaſionally, till of late years, by the proprietors, or their friends, muſt have been repaired from ſome more ancient fabric, or an entire new building of ſtones taken out of the walls of the abbey. If we may credit tradition, it was reared by the firſt Lord Lindores, in the beginning of laſt century, and has received conſiderable additions and improvements ſince that period. Formerly ſtrangers, who viſited the ruins of the abbey, had a ſtone coffin pointed out to them, which was placed within the area of the church, on the north wall, towards the eaſt end, which was ſaid to have contained the remains of an Earl of Douglas; but, in conſequence of depredations lately made upon the walls, it is now covered over with rubbiſh. Whether this coffin did in fact contain the bones of an Earl of Douglas, or of a Duke of Rothſay, or perhaps of ſome dignified eccleſiaſtic belonging to the abbey, no certain information can be procured, as there is not a ſingle inſcription to be found in any part of the church, or of the other buildings, which might lead to the diſcovery of facts of ſuch remote antiquity. Upon the whole, in viewing the abbey of Lindores, nothing is now to be met with, worthy of attaching the curioſity of the viſitor.

tor. If ever it preſented any ſtriking diſplays of the taſte, and magnificence of our foreſathers, they have been removed; and, ſhould the practice of demoliſhing its ruins continue a few years longer, the eye of the moſt prying antiquary, will ſcarcely be able to diſcern the ſituation where it was placed.

Beſides the ruins of the abbey of Lindores, this pariſh contains two croſſes of very ancient erection. One of theſe is placed on a riſing ground, a little weſtward of the town of Newburgh, and within 4 yards of the Tay. The other is ſituated at the diſtance of ſomewhat leſs than a mile to the S. in an opening of the Ochil Hills, on the confines of Strathearn, where the road, formerly leading towards Lindores, ſeparates from that which at preſent leads to Auchtermuchty. The lower croſs, known by the name of the Croſs of Mugdrum, conſiſts of one large ſtone placed upright in another, which has been hollowed for receiving it, and which ſerves to retain it in an erect poſition. Upon the upright ſtone, although mutilated, remains of the figures of horſes may be traced; but no veſtige of any inſcription appears. The upper croſs, called Croſs M'Duff, conſiſts, at preſent, of one large quadrilateral block of freeſtone, rudely indented in ſeveral places, but is ſaid to have had formerly another ſtone ſtanding upright; although the ſtone now lying along the the ground, has no appearance of ever having been hollowed, in the manner of that which forms the baſe of the Croſs of Mugdrum. No ſatisfactory account can be given of the various purpoſes, which theſe croſſes were originally meant to ſerve. The tradition, which connects Croſs M'Duff with the juriſdiction of the powerful Thane of Fife, may not be deſtitute of foundation; but in regard to the Croſs of Mugdrum, even tradition ceaſes to furniſh any information. It were needleſs to quote the lines of jargon, which are ſaid to have been

been engraved on the Croſs M'Duff. They are to be found in every book, which treats of that ancient monument *.

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* Although tradition has retained few particulars, reſpecting the hiſtory of either of the croſſes, it continues to preſerve the memory of the ſpot, in the lands belonging to the town of Newburgh, on which more than one unfortunate victim fell a ſacrifice to the ſuperſtition of former times, intent on puniſhing the crime of witchcraft. The humane proviſions of the legiſlature, joined to the ſuperior knowledge, which has, of late years, pervaded all ranks of men in ſociety, bid fair to prevent the return of a phrenſy, which actuated our forefathers univerſally, and with fatal violence. But we may well be ſurpriſed, in obſerving how near to our own times, it continued to exert its influence over the judgment, not of the common people only, but of thoſe too, who, by their education, ſhould have been raiſed above vulgar prejudices. As late as the year 1653, the records of this pariſh, contain articles of an additional charge, brought by the miniſter himſelf, againſt Katharine Kay, while under proceſs of ſcandal, before the kirk-ſeſſion, for imprecating curſes upon him, becauſe he had debarred her acceſs to the communion, which evidently ſhew, that he entertained ſuſpicions of her being a witch. The articles, or points of accuſation, as the records term them, are 5 in number; and as they ſerve to exhibit a ſtriking picture of ſentiments, once prevalent among the people of this country, no apology is requiſite for taking the liberty of inſerting them.

" Newburgh, September 18th, 1653. The which day, ye miniſter gave in, " againſt Kathrine Key, ſeverall poynts yt had come to his hearing, which he " deſyred might be put to tryell. 1. That being refuſed milk from Chriſtian " Orme, or ſome other in David Orme's houſe, the kow gave nothing but red " blood; and being ſent for, to ſie the kow, ſhe clapped (ſtroked) the kow, and " ſaid, the kow will be weill, and thereafter the kow becam weill. 2. That " John Philp having ane kow new calved, the ſaid Kathrine Key, came in and " took forth ane peice fyre, and yrafter the kow becam ſo ſick, that none expect- " ed ſhe ſould have lived. And the ſaid Kathrine being ſent for, to ſie the kow, " ſhe clapped the kow, and ſaid the kow will be weill enough, and ſhe amen- " dit. 3. That the miniſter and his wyfe, having ane purpoſe to take ane chyld " of theirs from the ſd Kathrine, which ſhe had in nurſing, the chyld wold ſuck " none woman's breaſt, being only one quarter old; but being brought again to " the ſaid Kathrine, preſently ſucked her breaſt. 4. That thereafter the chyld was " *ſpayned* (weaned), ſhe came to ſie the child, and wold have the bairne (child) " in her arms, and yrafter, the bairne murned and gratt (weeped ſore), in the

" night

Town of Newburgh, its History, &c.—The town of Newburgh arose, in the times of popery; and, at an early period, was erected into a burgh of regality, under the Abbot of Lindores. In the year 1600, James VI. erected the Abbacy of Lindores into a temporal Lordship; and, in the year 1631, his son Charles I. granted a charter to the town of Newburgh, forming the community into a proper royal burgh, with the several immunities and privileges, usually conferred on the royal burghs of this kingdom. At present, Newburgh has no voice in the choice of a representative to parliament; but, in all other respects, it retains the features of a royal burgh. Its revenue, indeed, is very inconsiderable, not exceeding 25l. Sterling, per annum, out of which the minister receives, yearly, 20 l. Scotch, in payment of stipend. Notwithstanding which, its office bearers make a decent appearance; a court is held in it weekly, with marks of dignity; and it retains a clerk of ability for recording its public proceedings.—One, who has occasion to observe the importance of insuring full respect, to persons cloathed with the office of magistrates, may be allowed to express a wish, that government would devise some method of increasing the revenues of the lesser burghs. A small sum of the public money applied in this way, could not fail of contributing to the preservation of order, in places, which, owing

" night, and almost the day tyme; also, that nothing could stay her, untill she " died. Nevertheless, befor her coming to sie her, and her embracing of her, " took as weill wt the spaining, and rested as weill as any bairne could doe. " 5. That she is of ane evill *brutte* (report) and fame, and so was her mother be- " fore her." When these points were put to trial by the kirk-session, the evidence of their truth did not, it should seem, come out with such clearness, as to enable the kirk-session to pass sentence against Katherine; and they accordingly referred the matter to the presbytery of Cupar for decision. But in what manner the presbytery of Cupar treated it, no notice is taken in the records of the kirk-session.

owing to the general increaſe of wealth, and other obvious cauſes, are in ſome danger of requiring the authority of an eſtabliſhed and reſpectable magiſtracy, to preſerve them in tranquillity and good order.

The town of Newburgh, conſiſts of one ſtreet of conſiderable length, with ſmall ſuburbs at each end, and a lane leading towards the ſhore from its centre. The houſes, on each ſide of the lane, and in the ſuburbs, have been built within theſe 30 years. The town itſelf, does not occupy more ground than it did in the end of laſt century; but, in conſequence of alterations, that have ſince been made upon the buildings, it muſt be capable of containing double the number of inhabitants. Formerly, the generality of houſes in Newburgh, were low built, and covered with thatch of ſtraw, or of reeds. Of late years, a better ſtyle of architecture has prevailed; and, at this day, Newburgh has ſome pretenſions to neatneſs, in the ſtructure of its houſes. Sixty years ago, few of its houſes concealed their rafters.—At preſent, ſcarcely any of them, and none lately erected, preſent that naked appearance. On the ſame ſpot, where 12 years ago a board was placed in the window, to exclude the winter ſtorm, may now be ſeen, a Venetian blind, attached to the caſement, for blunting the rays of the ſummer ſun. Within theſe 10 years, not fewer than 30 houſes have been rebuilt, within the liberties of Newburgh; ſome of which might be rented at 12l. and none for leſs than 5l. per annum. Preparations are alſo making, for rebuilding two or three more. The ſtreet of Newburgh, which has long been paved with ſtones, having fallen into diſrepair, the magiſtrates and town council, lately, formed the reſolution of paving it a new; and by means of aſſeſſments from proprietors within the burgh, together with a ſmall allowance out of the ſtatute labour, leviable upon the inhabitants at large, they have made conſiderable progreſs in the ex-

ecution of their deſign, Some appearances, which would induce one to be of opinion, that coal might be found in the grounds belonging to the town, having alſo attracted the notice of the magiſtrates and town council, they are at preſent taking the proper ſteps, for aſcertaining the exiſtence of that uſeful mineral in their territory; and it is to be preſumed, that the liberality of the neighbourhood will enable them to make the moſt ſatisfactory inveſtigation. Various other meaſures have of late been purſued by them, and by individuals in the place, which ſhew, that the ſpirit of improvement, long dormant, has awoke, and become active in Newburgh, as well as in many other burghs in Scotland.

Manufactures and Commerce.—Till within theſe few years, a great proportion of the inhabitants of Newburgh, whatever other trades they might exerciſe, were a kind of huſbandmen. But moſt of the ſmall portions of land, which they formerly held, and which they generally cultivated with their own hands, having been purchaſed of late by the proprietor of Mugdrum, and laid out in large parcels, they are now attached more to particular callings. The trade which occupies the greateſt number of hands, is that of weaving cloth. No fewer than 270 of the inhabitants, are at preſent employed in it. The weavers of Newburgh, however, do not yet abide conſtantly by the loom. Accuſtomed from their early years, to handle the oar, as well as the ſhuttle, they betake themſelves, in conſiderable numbers, to a ſea-faring life, when the price of theſe kinds of cloth, which they are in the practice of weaving, falls low in the market. While they continue at the loom, they do not, in general, arrange themſelves under different maſters, who might furniſh them with materials, and pay them for their work. Some of them do indeed follow that method; and work-ſhops may be met with, in which

near a dozen of looms are employed by one manufacturer. But the greater part of them weave their own yarn, and bring their own webs to ſale. The webs, which they commonly weave, are of three kinds, termed by the workmen, *Sileſias, Oſnaburghs, and Brown Linens*. For ſuch cloths, there is, generally, a good, and at preſent, a very great demand in London and Leeds. The weavers, in Newburgh, however, have little direct intercourſe with either of theſe places. They generally diſpoſe of their webs, at Newburgh, to a few of their own number, who again diſpoſe of them at Perth, Dundee, Cupar, Auchtermuchty, and Glaſgow, to perſons there, who purchaſe them, either with their own capital, or upon commiſſion, for the Engliſh markets. Not more than two of them tranſact buſineſs immediately with London. Beſides weavers, Newburgh contains its full proportion of ſhopkeepers, inn-keepers, ſmiths, maſons, carpenters, ſhoemakers, tailors, butchers, bakers, fiſhermen, and ſeamen. Scarcely any of its inhabitants find themſelves placed beyond the neceſſity of employing themſelves in manual labour; although few or none of them are engaged in manufacturing any materials for exportation, except the linen cloths already mentioned, and barley into malt. Of the latter, they ſend to Edinburgh market, in the courſe of one ſeaſon, about 1800 bolls. Till of late years, a great proportion of bread, beer, and butcher's meat, conſumed in Newburgh, was brought from Perth, Dundee, and the Carſe of Gowrie; but the bakers, brewers, and butchers, are exerting themſelves in their reſpective occupations, and they bid fair for ſecuring, in future, the cuſtom of the generality of the inhabitants. Formerly, few people reſorted from any diſtance to Newburgh, for merchant goods; and the retail trade in it was limited to a few articles, in the hard-ware and grocery lines, purchaſed commonly by the dealers at Perth, or at Dundee. But within theſe few

years,

years, ſeveral ſhops have been opened, upon a more extenſive ſcale; and there is reaſon to believe, that the demands of the town and neighbourhood, will furniſh the keepers of them with employment. Still, however, no trader has as yet appeared in Newburgh, whoſe extenſive tranſactions in commerce, would entitle him to the name and character of a merchant; though perhaps the time is not far diſtant, when many will be found here of that reſpectable deſcription.

Shore.—A few yards northward from the town, and nearly connected with it by buildings, although beyond the limits of its juriſdiction, lies the ſhore of Newburgh; which conſiſts of three continuous piers, projecting into the ſouth deep of the river Tay, with ſeveral dwelling houſes, ſtore-houſes, and other conveniencies for commerce. Theſe piers form very ſafe ſtations, for the veſſels employed in the trade on the river; and although none of any burden can properly be ſaid to belong to Newburgh, and but few are freighted to it, except with coals or lime, they are ſeldom to be ſeen without ſhips, as the generality of veſſels, bound for Perth, muſt wait at Newburgh the flow of the tide; and not a few of them, muſt unload part of their cargoes there, before they can, even with the tide, proceed farther up the river. Hence ariſes a good deal, if not of trade, at leaſt of ſtir, at the ſhore of Newburgh, which proves of advantage to the place at large. The ſmacks employed in the ſalmon trade, alſo, lie to there, at all ſeaſons, and take in all kinds of goods for London market. A trade in wood and iron, is likewiſe carried on at the ſhore, by a dealer, who reſides upon the ſpot, and who has obtained a pretty extenſive ſale. A tannage is likewiſe forming there, which will revive a trade, that was carried on at Newburgh, in the end of the laſt century. Formerly, great quantities of burnt lime-ſtone, brought by land carriage, from the inland

parts

parts of Fife, were ſhipped at the ſhore of Newburgh, and ſold to the farmers in the Carſe of Gowrie, for manure. But the lime works erected on the Frith of Forth, and on the Engliſh coaſt, from which the farmers, in the eaſt end of Strathearn, and in the Carſe of Gowrie, are more readily and more cheaply ſupplied, have nearly put an end to that ſpecies of traffic. For ſeveral years paſt, great quantities of wheat and barley, purchaſed from the farmers in the neighbourhood, have been ſhipped at the ſhore of Newburgh, chiefly for the Edinburgh and Glaſgow markets. This trade ſeems likely to continue; and while it brings advantage to Newburgh, muſt operate to the benefit of the country at large. On the north ſide of Fife, more grain is cultivated, than can be conſumed by the inhabitants. Formerly, a market was, with difficulty, found for the ſurplus; but, by the connexion eſtabliſhing between Fife and the ſouth country, this difficulty will be removed, and a new ſpur given to the farther cultivation of a diſtrict lately much improved, but capable of being rendered greatly more productive.

Farms.—There are only 4 farms in this pariſh, the remaining lands, which are not extenſive, either continuing in the poſſeſſion of the proprietors themſelves, or being divided into inconſiderable portions among a variety of feuars, tenants, burghal heritors, and other ſmall proprietors. Of theſe farms, however, it may be with truth, affirmed, that they are at preſent, in as good a ſtate of cultivation, as any in the neighbourhood. Few farms, in the whole extent of the Ochil Hills, to the weſtward, have been more judiciouſly laid out, than two of them, which occupy the eſtate of Pitcairly; and no farm in the Carſe of Gowrie can be kept in higher order, or rendered more productive, than the one which is connected with the Abbey of Lindores. The fourth farm, although formed

formed but of late, chiefly out of ſmall purchaſes from the burghal heritors of Newburgh, bears evident marks of improvement.

Rent, Proprietors, &c.—The valued rent of the pariſh amounts only to 1938 l. 17 s 6 d. Scotch. Its real rent may not at preſent be great; but, on the expiration of ſome leaſes, it muſt riſe conſiderably, as land, in the lower grounds, on the eaſt of Newburgh, lets, at from 2 l. to 3 l. *per* acre; and, in the higher grounds, at from 10 s to 2 l. *per* acre. The territory of the pariſh is divided among two greater, and about 30 ſmaller proprietors, called here, as well as in other parts of the country, *portioners*. The two greater, and moſt of the ſmaller proprietors, uſually reſide in it. Beſides the four farmers already mentioned, there are few tenants in the pariſh, who do not reſide in the town, or at the ſhore of Newburgh; and their number is not great, nor their portions of land extenſive. The four greater farmers pay of rent above 50 l. *per annum* each; the other tenants pay much below that ſum.

Crops.—The principal crops in this pariſh are oats, barley, wheat, beans, and a mixture of beans and peaſe. Notwithſtanding the richneſs of the ſoil in the lower grounds, it is not long ſince wheat made a crop there in rotation. Of late years, wheat has been ſown, not only in the lower grounds, but alſo in the hilly parts of the pariſh. As turnips are not found a profitable crop in clay lands, they are not cultivated in the lands attached to the Abbey of Lindores. Any trials made to raiſe them in the higher grounds, have ſucceeded. But it is matter of regret, that farmers, in this part of the country, ſhew ſome backwardneſs, in extending a ſpecies of crop, which, when properly conducted, not only meliorates the land, and gives it freſh life and vigour, but alſo furniſhes a delicate and nouriſh-

ing food, either for feeding young cattle, and raiſing them to a greater ſize, or fattening the old, and bringing them to a better market. Clover and rye graſs are generally ſown with the barley; and, after a crop of graſs has been taken for one year, the ground is again broke up for oats. Wheat is ſown after fallow or after pulſe, but commonly after fallow. Manure is laid on the fallow, or when the land is undergoing preparation for a peaſe crop. When the ſeaſon will admit, beans, or a mixture of beans and peaſe, are ſown upon the manure, and plowed in. Wheat is not ſown ſo early as formerly, even upon fallow. Farmers are of opinion, that very early ſowing ſeldom produces the largeſt head, or the heavieſt grain of wheat. Oats are ſown from the beginning of March to the end of April, and the ſeed, generally made uſe of, is a ſpecies of oats termed Grange-bothrey, from a farm of that name, in the county of Angus. Barley is ſown in the end of April, and through the whole of May. Moſt of the ſeed employed is a mixture of different kinds, originally imported from England. Though the lands, being under better culture than formerly, yield greater quantities of barley, it is remarked, that its quality ſeems not to be equal. Whether this be owing to the frequent ſowing of wheat, or to the introduction of lime, as a manure, experience has not yet enabled the farmer to determine. The quantity of grain, raiſed in this pariſh, is by no means equal to the maintenance of its inhabitants; but the deficiency is abundantly made up by the neighbourhood.

Population, &c.—From the report of one, who, during the indiſpoſition of the writer, was employed to aſcertain the number of the pariſhioners, it appears, that the pariſh, at large, contains 1664 ſouls, of whom 1552 belong to the town, ſuburbs, and ſhore of Newburgh, and 112 to the country part

of the parish. The inhabitants of the town, suburbs and shore, consist of 772 males, and 780 females. Of the inhabitants in the country, 64 are males, and 48 females. The return to Dr. Webster, in 1755, amounting only to 1347, it is evident, that there has been an increase, since that time, of 317 souls. Owing to the manner, in which the publication of marriage banns is generally registered in Scotland, an accurate account of the marriages, that take place in any particular parish, cannot always be obtained. But the records of this parish, supply the following account of births and deaths, for the last six years, which there is every reason to believe, may be depended on.

TABLE of BIRTHS, DEATHS, &c.

Years.	Births.			Deaths.			Ages of persons who died.									
	Born.	Males.	Females.	Died.	Males.	Females.	Under 2 years.	Between 2 & 5.	Between 5 & 10.	Between 10 & 20.	Between 20 & 30.	Between 30 & 40.	Between 40 & 50.	Between 50 & 60.	Between 60 & 70.	Between 70 & 80.	Between 80 & 90.
1786	46	24	22	32	10	22	2	3	3	4	5	4	1	1	5	3	1
1787	58	34	24	25	13	12	3	2	2	1	3	2	2	3	5	2	0
1788	66	34	32	30	13	17	6	3	3	2	4	1	1	1	7	2	0
1789	61	36	25	27	16	11	5	2	5	5	2	2	2	1	3	0	0
1790	66	35	31	31	18	13	5	2	2	4	3	5	3	2	4	1	0
1791	69	33	36	98	42	56	23	35	13	3	2	4	5	4	5	4	0

Eccleſiaſtical State.—There are three clergymen in the pariſh of Newburgh; the miniſter of the eſtabliſhed church, of the Burgher Seceders, and of the Congregational Society, beſides ſeveral others, who, without taking the name of clergymen, teach and exhort, under the denomination of Anabaptiſts, and Unitarians. The Congregational Society is ſmall. The Burgher Seceders may exceed one third of the whole inhabitants of the pariſh. In point of numbers, the Anabaptiſts and Unitarians ſcarcely deſerve the name of ſocieties. The Unitarians do not exceed four; and the Anabaptiſts are not double that number. The Anabaptiſts are connected with a church of the ſame deſcription, at Dundee. It may be preſumed, that the Unitarians have eſtabliſhed more diſtant connexions. There are alſo, in the pariſh, ſeveral families who belong to the congregation of Antiburgher Seceders at Abernethy. The Antiburgher Seceſſion, is of long ſtanding in the pariſh. But the Burgher Seceſſion ſprung up in it, on the admiſſion of the preſent incumbent, into the Eſtabliſhed Church. The town of Newburgh, alſo, contains a few Independents, and one or two profeſſors of the Epiſcopal religion, but no Roman Catholics. Beſides theſe various denominations of Chriſtians, not a few perſons reſide within the bounds of this pariſh, who hold communion with no religious ſociety, and ſeldom join in any public acts of religious worſhip. A friend to principles of toleration, and an advocate for liberty of conſcience, rejoices in obſerving men of different views and opinions, on ſubjects of religion, living together in the exerciſe of mutual charity, and tranſacting peaceably with one another, the buſineſs of civil life.—Theſe are happy times. Even among the common people, perſecution for the ſake of conſcience begins to be regarded with horror; and the bigot ſhould in vain attempt to inflame them with violence, againſt perſons of ſentiments, the moſt oppoſite to thoſe which they

have embraced. At the same time, conviction of the importance of religion, to the present comfort, and future happiness of mankind, must produce the deepest regret in the minds of those, who are called to witness liberty of conscience made a pretence for neglecting duties, which the best, in all ages, have ever held sacred.

Lord Viscount Stormont, and Mr. Hay of Mugdrum, are vice-patrons of the parish. The stipend consists of 31 bolls, 2 pecks of oats; 65 bolls 2 firlots of bear; 37 bolls 2 pecks of meal, (2 bolls 2 pecks of the oats, and the same quantity of the bear being converted to the town, at 20 l. Scotch,) and 22 l Scotch in money, with a manse, and a glebe of 4 acres. The parish church is an old Popish chapel, situated within the town of Newburgh, which, in consequence of a late thorough repair, has been made a very convenient place of worship. The manse is a new building, erected since the admission of the present incumbent, on a most delightful spot, beyond the town of Newburgh, to the eastward, in full view of the river Tay, and Carse of Gowrie.

Schools.—There are two schools in the parish, and one teacher in each school. The school, taught by the parish schoolmaster, is attended by 60 scholars, of whom 8 are taught Latin, 22 writing and arithmetic, and 30 English. The other school, which is private, and taught by a Seceder, is attended by 55 scholars, of whom 3 are taught Latin, 21 writing and arithmetic, and 31 English. During the winter season, both schools are resorted to, after the ordinary hours of labour, by a considerable number of grown up persons, for the purpose of learning English, writing, arithmetic, book-keeping, and navigation. Of late years, the advantages of education, have been fully perceived by parents, and are eagerly sought for their children. There is one licensed

preacher

preacher belonging to the pariſh, and three young men from the town of Newburgh, have either juſt finiſhed, or are at preſent, proſecuting the ſtudy of phyſic, in the univerſity of Edinburgh.

Poor.—There are no poor on the funds, who reſide in the country part of the pariſh. The number of poor on the pariſh roll in the town, is conſiderable. They are maintained by the intereſt of accumulated ſums of money, feu-duties of a ſuperiority in lands purchaſed for their behoof, collections at the church door, and other caſualties. Beſides the money given in monthly penſions, conſiderable ſums are diſtributed occaſionally, to perſons in ſtraitened circumſtances, who receive no ſtated ſupplies; and the education of about 8 children, is uſually paid for.

Character and Manners of the People.—In a provincial town, inhabited chiefly by ſailors and weavers, poſſeſſed of ſmall properties, and nearly on a level with reſpect to riches, one does not look for poliſhed manners, and the courtly attentions practiſed in great cities. Till of late years, the inhabitants of Newburgh were remarkable for their ruſticity, and for the freedom with which they treated their ſuperiors. "We will let the beſt Lord of the land ken, that when he "ſets his foot on Newburgh cauſeway, he is Bailie Lyell's "vaſſal," was the boaſtful language in which they expreſſed their emancipation from feudal tyranny, and their enjoyment of political freedom. The preſent inhabitants retain the ſenſe of independence, imbibed and cheriſhed by their anceſtors; but having ſhared in the effects of that civilization, which has recently produced ſo great a change on the manners of the nation at large, they are ſtudious of diſplaying it with moderation and courteſy. They mingle with their neighbours in the

the tranſactions of commercial intercourſe; and they gradually aſſimilate to the general character of their countrymen. The bulk of the inhabitants undoubtedly merit the praiſe of ſobriety and induſtry; and inſtances of perſons are not wanting, who, by ſignal propriety, in their own deportment, furniſh a daily rebuke to the unprincipled and idle; and, by ſuperior attention to the education of their children, take the ſureſt method of producing a thorough reformation on the manners of the people. No perſon belonging to the pariſh of Newburgh, has ſuffered the puniſhment of death for any crime, within the period to which its records extend. In times of peace, Perth receives its moſt expert ſailors from this diſtrict; whilſt, in time of war, Newburgh ſupplies the Navy of Great Britain, with ſteady, well behaved, and gallant men.

Advantages and Diſadvantages.—The pariſh, and in particular, the town of Newburgh, labours under ſeveral diſadvantages. The country near it, on the ſouth, is hilly, thinly inhabited, and badly provided with roads. Trade being already eſtabliſhed at Perth and at Dundee, militates againſt its ſpeedy acquiſition of commercial conſequence. The appointment too, of magiſtrates in Newburgh, without a revenue adequate to the ſupport of their authority, may be reckoned unfavourable to it. When perſons in power are dependent, regulations of police may be formed, but will ſeldom be executed. In every town, men are to be found of weight ſufficient to thwart thoſe ſchemes of improvement, which muſt be proſecuted at the perſonal expence of the projectors. But, notwithſtanding theſe obvious obſtacles, no ſpot on the whole north ſide of Fife, ſeems better calculated for preparing various kinds of manufacture for ſale, and for ſupplying part of three counties, with foreign articles of conſumption. It

lies open to the moſt diſtant markets, has convenient ſtations for ſhipping, and admits veſſels of conſiderable burden. The fertile diſtrict of the Carſe of Gowrie, is at no great diſtance, on the north; and a well cultivated country approaches on the E. and W. There, a malting concern, of great extent, might be eſtabliſhed; and, in the immediate neighbourhood, might be found no inconvenient ſituation, for any work requiring a command of water, while Newburgh might furniſh plenty of hands for carrying on the operations of the manufacturer; as there are hundreds in it already trained to the loom, who only want a ſpirited merchant, with an adequate capital, to direct their induſtry into a lucrative channel. The time cannot be far diſtant, when theſe obvious advantages will be ſeized, in an age of ſuch commercial enterpriſe; and then the town of Newburgh, long poor, though independent, will become diſtinguiſhed for the wealth, the induſtry, and the number of its inhabitants, and better entitled to the attention of the philoſopher and the ſtateſman.

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NUMBER XI.

TOWN AND PARISH OF DUNDEE.

(*County of Forfar.—Preſbytery of Dundee.—Synod of Angus and Mearns.*)

By the Rev. ROBERT SMALL, *D. D. one of the Miniſters of that City.*

Origin of the Name.

THE modern name of the pariſh is Dundee, from the large town ſituated in it. This name, formerly, and even ſo late as the beginning of the preſent century, was generally ſpelled *Dondè* or *Dondie*; and in Queen Mary's charter *Dondei*, in law-Latin it is *Deidonum*; and it has been affirmed by various Highlanders, that they conſider it as ſignifying, what this Latin imports, the Gift, or otherwiſe, the Hill of God. Theſe circumſtances give probability to the tradition, that it obtained the name, about the middle of the 12th century, from David Earl of Huntingdon, who landing here, after a dreadful ſtorm in his return from the holy wars, deſigned by it to expreſs his gratitude for his deliverance; and, in conſequence of a vow, built the preſent pariſh church. Had the ſignification been the hill of Tay, as *Taodunum*, according to Buchanan, it would in Gaelic have been pronounced *Duntaw*. The ancient name was *Alec*, in Boece's Latin, *Alectum*

Alectum, and by this it is distinguished in the highlands. The signification of *Alec* is said to be pleasant or beautiful. The language spoken by the inhabitants, has, from time immemorial, been the broad Scotch; that is English or Saxon, with a peculiar provincial accent. The names of places in the parish are partly in this language, and partly Gaelic. Of the former kind are *Blackness*, *Coldside*, *Clepingtown* and *Claypots*. *Balgay*, *Dudhope*, *Drumgeith*, *Duntroon*, *Baldovie*, and various others are examples of the latter.

Situation, Extent, &c.—The parish of Dundee is situated in the county of Angus, now called, in writings, Forfarshire, from the county town. The length from W. to E. is about 6 miles, but its breadth is various; for, towards the west end, it is nearly two miles, towards the middle, where the town stands, not more than one, and towards the east end, between three and four *. The territory of the parish belongs to a great

* As there is no map of the parish, it is hardly possible to communicate an intelligible description of its form. The ridge of mountains, which runs from Perth to the east promontory of Angus, called the Red Head, separating between this country and Strathmore, is well known, being a continuation of the Ochil Hills; and in the parts where it approaches nearest to the parish of Dundee, it is named the Siedlaw Hills, and Lorn's Hill. While these mountains run along the Carse of Gowrie, no new range rises between them and the Tay, and there the country is flat, and almost level; but, where the Carse terminates near Millfield, a new range rises of lower hills, running from Balgay Hill on the west, to the Knock-Hills near Arbroath on the east, where it forms the south boundary of a sort of vale or strath, contained between them and the ridge of Siedlaw and Lorn, &c. on the north. In this vale, no single great river runs, but it is watered by several streams, which descend from the northern ridge, and, after traversing various parts of the vale, make their way through the lower range into the Tay. On part of this lower range of hills, and chiefly on their southern exposure, the parish of Dundee is situated; towards the east end it is intersected by Dighty and Fiethy, the principal of all the streams which

great variety of proprietors. The valued rent of the whole is, 7874 l. 3 s. 2 d. Scotch. The real rent abſtracting from the houſes and gardens in the town, is probably between 8,000 l. and 9,000 l. Sterling. The number of Scottiſh acres, under culture, is about 3,400, and in plantation, about 300. The principal eſtates in the pariſh are thoſe of Dudhope, with the other lands belonging to Lord Douglas, Craigie, Drumgeith, Baldovie, Pitkerro, Duntroon, Clepingtown, Wallace, Blackneſs, Upper Dudhope, Logie, and Balgay. None of theſe except the Duntroon and Douglas eſtates, have been above 100 years in poſſeſſion of the family of its preſent proprietors. In moſt of the others, the property has been fluctuating; and, the average term of poſſeſſion is rated ſufficiently high at 20 years. Logie, Blackneſs, and Balgay, are ſaid to be in the pariſh, only *quoad ſacra*.

Situation of the Town.—From the ſouth ſide of Balgay Hill, a ſmall ſtream ſprings, which, running eaſtward, is joined by another on the weſt ſide of the Law; and both together continue their courſe ſouth eaſt, through a narrow low ground, till,

run from the higher ridge; and on the north, and alſo partly on the eaſt, another of them, the Burn of Murroes, is the boundary which ſeparates it from Murroes, and Moneyfieth. The pariſh however, is not mountainous, for the Law of Dundee, the higheſt hill in the whole range, is only 525 feet above the level of the Tay. Balgay Hill, to the weſt of the Law, is conſiderably lower; and the ground of Craigie, to the eaſt of it, excepting at one point, is a gently riſing bank. The appearance of the country is beautiful, particularly the ſouth ſlope of all the grounds towards the Tay, the ſouth ſlope of Duntroon Hill towards Fiethy, and the bottom where Dighty and Fiethy meet, and where they are ſoon after joined by the Burn of Murroes. Balgay Hill, beſides its beautiful form, is covered with a thriving plantation of various trees; and the Law of Dundee, riſing gently from ſome low grounds behind the town, is cultivated through its whole aſcent, till at laſt it ſhoots into a round, green, and uncommonly pleaſing ſummit.

till, after dividing the town of Dundee, nearly in the middle, they fall into the Tay. Another ſmall ſtream, called Wallace Burn, riſes on the north of the Law, and running eaſt, and then ſouth, falls into the Tay at the eaſt end of the royalty, and at the diſtance of a quarter of a mile from the mouth of the former. Between theſe two, on the ſea-ſhore, and on a low flat ground, the ancient town of Dundee is ſaid to have been ſituated. It ſeems to have conſiſted of two parallel ſtreets, the Seagate, and on the north of it the Cowgate. In the broadeſt part of the Seagate, remains of the ancient croſs were ſome years ago to be ſeen; and, by marks in the preſent cauſeway, its ſituation is ſtill diſtinguiſhed. Weſt from the mouth of the firſt ſtream, the ground riſes into rocks, which are from 50 to 90 feet above the level of the Tay. On one of theſe, the ancient caſtle ſtood, and on the grounds lying among them, and declining towards the eaſt and ſouth from them, the more modern and largeſt part of the town is ſituated. When the great church was built by David Earl of Huntingdon, a great part of the grounds was probably in a ſtate of cultivation, and the ordinary deſignation of the church was for a long time *the Kirk in the field.* From theſe rocks, the ground continues to riſe all the way weſt to Balgay-Hill, and forms a ſort of ridge, bounded on the ſouth by the Tay, and on the north by the Balgay ſtream. The valley, where the ſtream runs, is exceedingly beautiful; and few ſituations can be conceived more delightful, than thoſe of the caſtle of Dudhope, and the houſe of Logie to the north of the valley; of the houſe of Balgay, at its weſtern extremity; or of Blackneſs on the ridge on the ſouth of it. On this ridge, the late additions to the town have chiefly been built, and they extend along the ſummit, and on both ſides of it, near to Blackneſs itſelf. Other conſiderable additions have, however, been alſo made in other quarters, particularly at the eaſt end of the royalty,

beyond the low ground, on the north of it, and on the east of the ancient suburb known by the name of the *Bonnet-Hill*. The point of the principal pier in the harbour, is in 56°. 27′. 23″. of latitude, and in 3°. 2′. 55″. of longitude, west from Greenwich, or in time 12′. 11′. The latitude may be considered as accurate, being the result of a great variety of observations made with a good Hadley's Quadrant, both in the meridian and other circles of altitude, at a place judged to be in the same parallel with the point now mentioned; but the conclusion for the longitude, is calculated only from a few lunar eclipses, and by geoditical deductions from the meridian of Hawk-Hill near Edinburgh.

Soil.—In a parish so extensive, there must be a considerable variety of soil. Little of it, however, is naturally rich. The rising ground, in particular, which runs west from the town towards Blackness, was originally thin and poor, with a gravelly bottom, and the surface was covered, probably, for a long time, with heath. About Blackness, the soil continues equally thin, and the bottom is of till. But, to the north of Blackness, particularly on the east end of the Hill of Balgay, the soil is deeper, and consists of a rich black earth. Except about the old castle of Dudhope, and on the low grounds behind the town of Dundee, the soil of the Law is poor, with a bottom of till. The ground to the eastward of the Law, though better, is not remarkably rich; a good part of Craigie, which consists of the best of it, was moor not 30 years ago, and the bottom is generally till. To the eastward of Craigie, the soil in some farms of the Douglas estate, becomes better, and inclines to clay. The best land is in the bottom, where Dighty and Fiethy meet. It includes part of Baldovie and Drumgieth, and seems to be a deposit from these two *waters*. The estate of Pitkerro, bounded on three sides by Fiethy, Dighty and

and the Burn of Murroes, consists of a soil good and dry, though rather thin, and the south bank of Duntroon is also fertile. The worst land lies to the north of the hills of Balgay, Duntroon, and the Law. But the neighbourhood of this large town seems to place all these varieties of soil upon a level. They are, in general, in a state of high cultivation, and produce valuable crops. Instead of large pieces of moor, which, within the last 30 years, were to be found every where, there is hardly to be seen a single spot. All is culture or plantation, except a few acres of common, and very little lies waste through neglect.

Cultivation.—The number of people, who have farms, is 31 or 32. But of farmers, properly so called, and who make farming their only business, there are not more than 15. The practice of one of the most industrious and intelligent, is as follows. He rents 130 acres at 40 s. per acre: he keeps constantly 7 servants, and 8 horses; he employs in spring 3 ploughs, each wrought by 2 horses, and in winter, 2 ploughs wrought by 4; and he uses 4 carts, whose dimensions are 8 feet by 4. His land is laid out in 7 divisions cultivated in this rotation: 1 fallow, 2. wheat, 3. potatoes and turnips horse-hoed, 4. barley, 5. oats, with grass seeds, 6. grass, chiefly sold green, and cut and carried off by the buyers, 7. grass cut for hay. In this rotation, the whole manure is given to the wheat, and the system seems to be approved of by his neighbours, and generally adopted. He begins to sow wheat in September, oats in March, barley in April, turnips from the 10th to the middle of June; and his crops of grain are generally reaped in September. The reaping is wholly performed by the sickle, and all the kinds of grain are bound in sheaves, and, while on the field, set up in shocks. An acre of good turnips sells from 7 l. to 10 l., according to the distance from

from the town. The buyer takes them up and carries them off the grounds, and none are fed off in the field. The potatoes are chiefly planted by Dundee manufacturers, who also clean them with hand hoes, and take them up, The farmer puts the ground in proper order for receiving them, and draws from 4 l. to 6 l. the acre. This practice is attended with the best effects, to the health and more easy subsistence of the manufacturer and his family; and to the farmer in clearing his land from weeds, which it does more effectually than any other method. An acre of good grass, for green feeding, like the turnip, draws from 7 l. to 10 l. and even 12 l. The plough generally used is the improved Scotch one, though Small's plough begins also to be introduced. No threshing machines have hitherto been employed, though there are many in various parts of the neighbouring country, and though one kind of them is spoken of with approbation. Probably the reason is, that we have no farms so large as to make them necessary, or to pay sufficiently for the original expence. The corns, when brought off the field, are all stacked in the barn-yard, and generally raised about 3 feet above the ground, on wooden frames supported by stone pillars. Fanners have been, for a long time, the only instruments employed in winnowing. The principal manures, in addition to what every farm supplies, are dung from Dundee, and lime, chiefly from Sunderland. No services are in this parish exacted from the farmers; and this oppressive custom, though still subsisting in some other parts of Angus-shire, is here happily abolished.

Cattle.—The greatest part of the parish is inclosed with hedges and stone fences, but, except in some parts distant from the town, the inclosures are seldom used for pasture. The cattle of all kinds are good, but the parish is not remarkable for any peculiar breed. The farmers breed some horses, but by

by no means in number ſufficient for the demands of the neighbourhood, or for their own labour. The market in Dundee, for all kinds of butcher meat, is one of the beſt in Scotland *. No ſheep are bred, or even fattened for ſale, except a few by Mr. Guthrie of Craigie. He has tried in his incloſures the large ſouth country breed, and endeavoured to introduce that of Mr. Bakewell, with tolerable ſucceſs. The birds and quadrupeds, which are not domeſticated, are the ſame that frequent the other low country pariſhes near the ſea, and ſeem to require no particular enumeration. No part of the pariſh is ſubject to inundations, except the bottom where Fiethy and Dighty join; but no conſiderable damage is done, either to the grounds, or to the crops upon them; and though the equinoctial tides ſometimes riſe high, they have not, in any perſon's memory, been hurtful.

Climate and Diſeaſes.—No part of the pariſh can be called unhealthy. The higher and weſt part of the town of Dundee, and the whole ridge, on which the principal additions to it have been built, is naturally as healthy a ſituation, (from its gravelly bottom, the conſtant current of the tides, and its expoſure to the S. W. winds,) as, perhaps, any in the world. Even the ſuburbs to the N. E. though on a bottom of till, are healthy, for the declivity of the ſituation prevents all ſtagnation of water. The low grounds behind the town are, indeed,

* The veal, in particular, has of late years become excellent, in conſequence of an improvement introduced, by a gentleman in the neighbourhood, in the management of the calves. Inſtead of confining them in low, dirty, and open ſtalls, they are placed in boxes raiſed ſome feet above the ground, by which means they are more eaſily kept clean, warm, and dry, and care is alſo taken by giving a cover to every box, to exclude the light. In conſequence of theſe and ſome other attentions, the veal equals, if not excells, the beſt produced in England.

deed, hitherto, but inſufficiently drained, and the houſes to the ſouth, which border on them, exhibit ſome inconſiderable marks of dampneſs. But the principal cauſes of unhealthineſs in Dundee, are the height of the houſes, the narrowneſs of the tenements and of ſome ſtreets, by which the people were too much crowded upon one another. The bounds of the royalty were too confined for the increaſing number of the inhabitants, and it was only within the laſt 30 years, that they began to extend their buildings beyond its limits. But with all theſe defects, Dundee may be conſidered as a very healthy place; the ſmall-pox, indeed, is often epidemical and fatal, for inoculation is, hitherto, but imperfectly introduced; but fevers are ſeldom infectious, and agues almoſt unknown. The crowded places of the town, indeed, are unfavourable to children, but probably not more ſo than other crowded places; and as one evidence of its healthineſs, it may be mentioned, that in a diſtrict containing 1800 inhabitants, only two perſons, in the ſummer of 1789, were found confined to bed. Leſs rain falls here than at Perth, for, by the Carſe and Siedlaw hills to the north, and the Fife hills to the ſouth, the clouds are attracted, and frequently carried away from this town and neighbourhood *. The village of the Ferry, in particular, at the eaſt end of the pariſh, near Broughty caſtle, is uncommonly dry and wholeſome, and, perhaps, better fitted for ſea-bathing, than any other place on the eaſt coaſt of Scotland. The moſt frequent endemial diſeaſes are conſumptions and the ſcrophula, by which laſt, perhaps, the former are principally produced. The ſcrophula ſeems chiefly to affect the families of linen-weavers, who ſometimes feed poorly, and whoſe manufacture is carried on in damp and low floors. We have no lake, or even pool of ſtanding

wate

* No tradition or hiſtory ſpeaks of any damage done in Dundee by thunder and probably the ſituation and form of the Law is our ſecurity, and enables it

water, except one, which is dry in ſummer, and the declivity of the ground in all places, ſpeedily carries off the rain.

Foſſils, Springs, &c.—Unleſs whin-ſtone and porphyry may be claſſed among volcanic productions, nothing of this kind has been diſcovered. Theſe two, particularly the firſt, compoſe the principal part of the hills and riſing grounds in the pariſh. The porphyry is chiefly on the lands of Balgay and Blackneſs. There are, however, various quarries of what we call free-ſtone. This is much harder than the free-ſtone about Edinburgh, and is evidently ſtratified. It is a ſand-ſtone, and ſometimes incloſes many pebbles, ſuch as now lie on all our ſhores, and are rounded by the daſhing of the waters. From the quarries of this kind in the neighbourhood, and eſpecially along the coaſt, ſtones for building in the town are often taken. But the beſt quarry, and what builders principally employ, is that of Kingoodie on the eſtate of Mill-field, in the pariſh of Forgan; and lighters bring the ſtone immediately from the quarry. Though compoſed of coarſer par-

to act, in ſome degree, as an electrical conductor. We have no water ſpouts, or whirlwinds, and, excepting the meteor, which, ſome years ago, paſſed along the whole iſland, no remarkable phænomena are remembered in the air. The aurora borealis differs nothing from thoſe in other places of Scotland, and, except during a ſettled courſe of froſt, it is generally followed by wind and rain from the ſouth. From a meteorological regiſter, kept for ſome years paſt, by Mr. Fairweather, a gentleman in the neighbourhood of the town, it appears, that the annual average of rain, which fell from January 1783, to January 1792, is 22, 12 inches, or, abſtracting from the uncommonly rainy year of 1789, 21, 23, that the average height of Faranheit's thermometer, for the months of June, July, and Auguſt, at two o'clock afternoon, was for the ſame years 63, 85, and for the months of December, January, and February, at 8 in the morning 34, 78. The houſe, where this regiſter was kept, is ſituated in the ſouth expoſure of the bank below Blackneſs, and about 40 feet above the level of the Tay.

ticles, and incapable of being ſo ſmoothly poliſhed as the ſtone from ſome other quarries, particularly thoſe of Craigie and Invergourie, it is much more durable, and in many parts of the great ſteeple, built from it, in the 12th century, eſpecially in the higher and more expoſed parts, the marks of the chiſſel are ſtill viſible. The colour is grey, inclining a little to blue. Another ſand-ſtone of a rediſh colour and ſofter texture, is found immediately weſt from the town, and at high water generally covered by the tide; but it is ſo periſhable as to be of little uſe. We have no figured ſtones, no petrifactions, no limeſtone or marble, and no granite or other alpine ſtone, except a few looſe and detached pieces, which bear the appearance of being rounded by water. A very ſmall quantity of grey ſlate is found in the free-ſtone quarries on the lands of Craigie; but it is nothing different from the reſt of the quarry, except that it ſplits into thinner ſtrata. There are no mines of any kind, nor any mineral ſprings except two, and theſe ſo ſlightly tinged with iron, as hardly to deſerve the name. Some excellent ſprings break out near the town, at the bottom of the Law, one eſpecially called the *Lady Well*, whoſe waters are conveyed in leaden pipes through the different ſtreets of the town, and ſupply the greateſt part of it. The waters from moſt of theſe, on boiling, leave a ſtony cruſt on the veſſels employed for that purpoſe any conſiderable time; but we have no ſprings which, with propriety, can be called petrifying.

Coaſt Tides, &c.—The Tay is between 2 and 3 miles broad, where it bounds the pariſh, and it extends nearly along its utmoſt length. The adjacent coaſt is generally high and rocky. At the weſt end, along the lands of Balgay, it is perpendicular, and more than 40 feet high; along thoſe of Blackneſs it falls lower, till, in approaching the town, it becomes a preci-

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pice of gravel, apt to be undermined by the ſea, and encroached on by the wind. In all the tract of ground, weſt from the town, there are but one or two places where ſmall veſſels can come to land. The harbour of Dundee lies to the ſouth of the rocks, on which the principal part of the town is ſituated; and here the ground ſlopes to the water more gently, and the harbour is capable of receiving veſſels of 300 tons. Eaſtward from the flat ground, where the ancient part of the town was built, and along the eſtate of Craigie, the ſhore again becomes rocky, but in ſeveral places ſmall veſſels may come to land. Beyond this eſtate, the coaſt falls lower, excepting at one promontory called the *Hare Craigs*, and at the Ferry, near Broughty Caſtle, it becomes a flat *links*, with a fine gravelly beach, where larger veſſels may ſafely approach. In the tides there is no peculiarity. As the current in the north ſea flows ſouth, we have high water about half an hour ſooner than at Leith, and at the harbour the riſe from low to high water is, in the higheſt ſtreams, about 18 or 20 feet. Some rocks lie off the harbour, but, excepting 4, which have buoys, or beacons, they riſe above the ſurface of the water. The current of the Tay, eſpecially after land floods, is rapid. Many ſand banks lie to the eaſtward between this harbour and Errol, and they are all on the north ſide of the river. The principal channel of the Tay is on the Fife ſhore, and it is only by this that veſſels of any burden can go up to Perth or Newburgh. Continual incroachments are made by this river, on the low lands of the Carſe of Gowrie, and the Inch of Mugdrum, oppoſite to Errol; and the ſoil which is waſhed away, comes down with the tide, and is depoſited all along our ſhores, eſpecially in the harbour. A baſon, which they ſhut at high water, and open when the tide has left the harbour, was, for a long time, the only reſource for clearing away the ſoil, which is thus depoſited. The

ſame method is ſtill employed, but a more effectual one has lately been adopted, of opening arched paſſages in ſome of the piers. Through theſe the current moves rapidly, and prevents the ſoil from ſettling; and before this contrivance the harbour was in danger of being filled up. To the eaſt of the harbour, all the way to Broughty Caſtle, there is an excellent road for ſhips of any burden, which can get within the bar, acroſs the mouth of the river. This is about 3 miles below Dundee, and as veſſels can hardly attempt to croſs it, in a ſtorm, many ſhipwrecks happen on the coaſt beyond it, when the ſtorm is from the eaſt, and the veſſels are found too near the ſhore. The principal ſcene of theſe wrecks is St. Andrew's bay, and the coaſt of Angus between Barry and Arbroath. Even within the bar, and till the veſſels have paſſed Broughty Caſtle, the coaſts on both ſides are dangerous, conſiſting of flat ſands.

River and Sea Productions.—The freſh water ſtreams of Dighty, Fiethy, and the Burn of Muroes, have trouts in them, and Dighty has ſome pikes, but no ſalmon; except at the end of the fiſhing ſeaſon, when a few of what are called *foul fiſh*, or *kelt*, are caught, and no fiſh of almoſt any other kind, except ſome ſea trout, after it leaves the pariſh, to fall into the Tay at Monyfieth. Though the Tay abounds in ſalmon, there are but 4 or 5 fiſhings on all our extent of coaſt; nor do almoſt any white fiſh, except a ſpecies of flounders, called *freſh waters*, come within the bar. In the ſands of the river we have a few ſmall crabs; one bank yields periwinkles; ſhrimps are caught on all of them, and ſmelts in the channel, on the ſhore of Fife, near Balmerino, where the water becomes leſs ſalt than at Dundee. In ſome years, towards Auguſt, large ſhoals of porpoiſes appear, and regularly go up and down with the tide, from the mouth of the river as far as Errol, in purſuit of ſalmon, but no method has hitherto been found of catching them. Seals are numerous, and alſo deſtructive

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to the ſalmon ; but various methods are practiſed of catching theſe ; and as they ſoon leave the places where they are once diſturbed, they are now ſeldom ſeen farther up than Monyfieth. The ſalmon, caught in the river, go principally to the London market, freſh or pickled. To carry them freſh, the method firſt ſuggeſted by Mr. George Dempſter, of packing them in ice, has been found of the greateſt conſequence, and is now conſtantly adopted. The price of ſalmon here is always regulated by that of the London market, and generally goes beyond it. Our ſalmon fiſhings begin later than towards Perth, and conſequently leſs is carried in a freſh ſtate to London. The rent of all the ſalmon fiſhings in the river probably exceeds 3000 l. annually; but of this rent, thoſe on our ſhores yield a very inconſiderable part. The currents of the Tay being rapid, the channels of its waters are often changed, and, conſequently, in this part of the river the ſalmon often change their courſe, and the annual value of any particular fiſhing alters. A fiſhing on the Fife ſhore, oppoſite to Broughty Caſtle, was let in 1789, at no greater yearly rent than 40 l. and in that year the tackſman is ſaid to have cleared no leſs than 300 l. As the pariſh is ſituated a good way within the bar of the river, we have no ſea weed for manure. Some kelp is made, but in ſo ſmall a quantity, that the ſhores yield no rent ; and any perſon who pleaſes is allowed to burn it. I know of no uncommon plants in the pariſh, or any uncommon ſhells upon its ſhores ; neither ſpunges nor corals are to be found.

On the ſea coaſt, without the bar, great numbers of ſea-fiſh are caught ; haddocks, whitings, cod, ling, plaice, dab, flounders, ſoles, turbot, holibut, ſkate, mackarel, and herrings. Of theſe, the haddocks were the principal, and the moſt readily bought up. They were ſome years a goin ſuch plenty, as to be an important article of food for the common people ; but

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for more than three years they have entirely left the coaſt. They were always in ſeaſon, except from February to May. The cod and ling are not plentiful, and they are inferior in quality to thoſe taken farther north. The mackarel and herrings come from beyond Fife Neſs, and are principally taken in Autumn. All the towns of Angus afford excellent markets for all theſe kinds of fiſh, the town of Dundee eſpecially; but it is now poorly and irregularly ſupplied. Between Monyfieth and Arbroath, conſiderable quantities of crabs and lobſters are found. The lobſters went chiefly to the London market, till lately, that by overfiſhing, none were to be had of a proper ſize, and, on this account they were for ſome time ſpared, and more of them come to the market of Dundee. Muſcles and cockles come from the mouth of the Eden, near St. Andrews, and are ſold by meaſure. The defect of our ſea fiſhing is, that the fiſhermen live too far up the river, and, their boats being ſmaller than in the times when ſmuggling prevailed, they do not go out to deep enough water, and cannot always venture to croſs the bar, We have no oyſters, and all attempts to ſettle them in the river, have hitherto been unſucceſsful.

Antiquities, Curioſities, &c.—On the top of the Law of Dundee, which is the moſt remarkable hill in the pariſh, there are the remains of a fortification, the ditch of which is ſtill viſible. Though the whole incloſure, which is of a ſquare form, is not of the ſame ſtructure with the towers, which have been ſuppoſed to be cemented by the force of fire, one ſmall part of it has been thus compacted. Probably on this the fires for alarming the town were lighted; and, by the frequent lighting, ſome of the ſtones have been put in fuſion. Along a good part of the ſhore on the eſtate of Craigie, ſeveral urns of unburnt clay, containing aſhes, have been found,

and

and ſeveral ſtone coffins with bones; and, though the moſt of theſe are of the common form, ſome, without any difference in the ſize of the bones, are only three feet ſquare. On the lands of Balgay, there is one of thoſe ſubterraneous dwellings, or places of retreat, aſcribed to the ancient Picts; and, although it has not been yet explored, it is certainly of uncommon extent.—The ſkeleton of the firſt elephant diſſected in Britain, was ſome years ago to be ſeen; the diſſection was made by Dr. Blair, an eminent phyſician of Dundee, and a memoir which he drew up concerning it, is to be found in the London Philoſophical Tranſactions.—From the council minutes, which yet remain, it appears, that coal mines were wrought in Scotland, at a much more early period than is commonly believed; for they ſhew, that in the 16th century, coals were the principal and common fuel. The ſame minutes furniſh many evidences of the uncertain and changeable value of money; for, in 1589, the price of a boll of coals, which probably conſiſted, as at preſent, of 800 lb. weight, and which now ſells at 6 s. coſt, in 1610, 1 s. $6\frac{2}{3}$ d. Mr. David Lindſay the parſon, (who afterwards was biſhop of Brechin, and probably tranſlated thence to Edinburgh,) values 13 bolls of meal, 13 bolls of oats, and 10 bolls of wheat, paid him out of the Abbey of Lindores, at no more than 81. 6 s. 8 d. yearly; and in place of that quantity of victual, has that annual ſum ſettled on him by the council: and, in the ſame year, Mr. James Gleg leaves the regency or profeſſorſhip of St. Salvator's college, St. Andrews, in order to be choſen rector of the Dundee grammar ſchool, with no greater yearly ſalary, than 161. 13 s. 4 d. and no higher quarterly payments from his ſcholars, than $6\frac{2}{3}$ d. The plague alſo appears in ancient times to have been very frequent; and, beſides the dreadful ravages it made in Dundee about the year 1566, and

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for the laſt time in 1607, the inhabitants ſeem to have never been perfectly free from alarms concerning it *.

Population.—As to the ſtate of the population of the town and pariſh, in remote times, it is impoſſible to give any accounts; nor can thoſe which we may attempt to give, even for the laſt century, be deemed fully ſatisfactory. The greateſt part of the ancient records and documents, is ſaid to have been carried off or deſtroyed, at the various ſieges of the town, and eſpecially when it was ſtormed by Monk; and though ſome council minutes remain, as far back at 1587, and a record of perſons inrolled as burghers, beginning in 1513, they afford very little aſſiſtance in this inveſtigation. The regiſter of baptiſms and marriages, reaches no farther back than 1645, and contains no more than five complete years before the fatal aſſault in 1651. As, however, we have of late years, three actual enumerations of the inhabitants, one in 1766, when their number was found to be 12,426; one in 1781, when it turned out 15,700; and one in 1788, when it was 19,329, we are enabled, from a compariſon of the marriages near theſe periods, with the marriages about 1651, to form ſome probable conjectures about its former population. The annual average of the marriages for the 5 years, previous to 1651, is 85

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* Under the head of antiquities may alſo be ſtated the various attacks and ſieges of the town. It was twice taken by the Engliſh in the days of King Edward I. and as often retaken by the heroes Wallace and Bruce, and the caſtle was demoliſhed by the latter. It was again taken and reduced to aſhes by Richard II. and a fourth time by the Engliſh, who, in the reign of Edward VI. held Broughty Caſtle. The Marquis of Montroſe took it by aſſault, and gave it up to pillage, which ſeems to have been prevented by the approach of an army of the Covenanters; and to cover his retreat from them, the north and eaſt parts of it were ſet on fire. The laſt and moſt deſtructive ſiege, when it was again taken by aſſault, and completely pillaged, was in Cromwell's time by General Monk.

But the annual average of the marriages, for the 5 years, immediately preceding 1766, is 140; and as 140 to 12,426, the actual number of inhabitants, in 1766, ſo is 85 to 7544. The average number of marriages again for the 5 years preceding 1781, is 149, and as 149 to 15,700, ſo is 85 to 8957; and, in like manner, as 215, the average number of the marriages for the 5 years preceding 1788, is to 19,329, ſo is 85 to 7641. Theſe are the three reſults for the number of the inhabitants in 1651; the medium of the three brings it out 8,047; and, it is probable, that this conjecture does not err widely from the truth. It is true, that a ſimilar compariſon, inſtituted between the averages of the baptiſms, at theſe different periods, would bring out in 1651, a population not leſs than 12,597; but more reſpect ſeems, on many accounts, to be due to the regiſter of marriages, than to that of baptiſms. All marriages, whether regular or not, have hitherto been carefully recorded; but, beſides that many neglect, or find it inconvenient, to record their children's names, (and theſe omiſſions are much more readily overlooked, in large places, than in ſmall), it is to be obſerved, that previous to 1651, there were few or no ſectaries; whereas, ſince the revolution in 1688, and eſpecially, ſince the riſe of the Independents and Seceders, about 1732, many have thought regiſtration in the records of the Eſtabliſhed Church, inconſiſtent with their religious principles: conſequently, the number of recorded baptiſms, muſt now bear a leſs proportion to the number of inhabitants than it did formerly; and, the reſult, for the former population, which is drawn from them, muſt come out too great.

The loſs of people in the ſiege by Monk, and eſpecially in the carnage at the ſtorming of the town, appears, on many accounts, to have been great, and cannot be eſtimated at much leſs than a ſixth part of the whole inhabitants. Of 159 children, born within the eight months immediately following, no leſs

than 25 are posthumous; and as 159, to 8047, the whole number of inhabitants, so is 25 to 1265, the number that may be supposed to have been destroyed. It is true, that this diminution of inhabitants does not produce any immediate effect upon the marriages, or baptisms, recorded in the register; nay, that in the six succeeding years, the marriages are more numerous than before the siege. But among these, 66 are the marriages of English soldiers; and though the baptisms, during this period, are not upon the whole increased, but in a small degree diminished, 255 of them are of soldiers' children. Besides, the money spent by a numerous garrison could not fail to attract people by the hopes of profit; and, the exact discipline of Cromwell's troops, and the regular distribution of justice, which took place during the whole time of his usurpation, gave them full and unusual security in their various occupations. But on the withdrawing of the garrison, the deficiency of inhabitants, becomes immediately evident. Notwithstanding the accessions which the garrison has been supposed to attract, a calculation from the marriages brings out, after the restoration, a diminution of 875 in the population; and, towards the end of the reign of Chales II. and during the whole reign of James VII. a diminution of 1420.

This diminution of population cannot be ascribed to the flight or removal of the inhabitants, on the foresight of the siege; for many persons, and some even of the highest rank, had repaired to Dundee, as a place of security, and strength. Among these, I find the Earls of Buchan, Tweddale, Buccleugh and Rosebery; the Viscount of Newburgh; the lords Balcarras, Elibank, Yester and Ramsay; and the master of Burley; 15 persons also bearing titles of knighthood; 11 other gentlemen of landed property; 9 of the Faculty of Advocates; 24 writers, merchants, and indwellers of Edinburgh; and 6 citizens of the Canongate, Leith and Musselburgh.

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Some even of the clergy from the ſouth found it neceſſary to take ſhelter in Dundee particularly Meſſrs. Oliver Colt; at Muſſelburgh, Stevenſon at Dunbar, and Reid of the Weſt Kirk Edinburgh. All theſe are mentioned in the regiſter, as parents or witneſſes to the baptiſms recorded in it. One of the children recorded is Anne, afterwards Dutcheſs of Monmouth; and the houſe where ſhe was born is ſtill pointed out*. In this deſtruction of ſo many inhabitants, many ſtrangers were involved, thoſe eſpecially who appeared as defenders of the town. The governor Lumiſden, of the family of Invergelly in Fife, is ſaid, on the irruption of the Engliſh, to have taken poſſeſſion of the great ſteeple; and, being ſoon after obliged to ſurrender at diſcretion, he and all with him were maſſacred in the church yard. In the ſame place alſo, the

* It may, perhaps, be an object of curioſity, at leaſt, to an inhabitant of Dundee, to know the names of the perſons whoſe poſthumous children are recorded, and, who probably fell in the ſiege, or after it. They are John Duncan, Donald Dunbar, Robert Ritchieſon, James Guthrie, Andrew Kinneries, merchants; Robert Bultie, unmarried, of a reſpectable mercantile family now extinct; Major Robert Lindſay, probably ſon of one deſigned late of Kinnettles; Thomas Annand, taylor; George Barrie, mealmaker; David Elder, weaver; Thomas Nicol and Alexander Hill, maltmen; William Glenny, ſeaman; John Nicol baxter; George Anderſon, hammerman; and of perſons whoſe deſignations are not given, James Angus, unmarried; James Thain, John Diſton, John Johnſton, Thomas Smith, John Kennedy, John Lyon, Thomas Watſon, William Oughterlony, James Stibbles. As an object of ſimilar curioſity, the following not inelegant epitaphs, on the tomb ſtones of two other perſons, who ſeem to have been of conſiderable note, are inſerted.

" *Monumentum* ROBERTI DAVIDSON, *prætoris vigilantiſſimi, qui, dum fortiter &*
" *magnanimiter urbis oppugnatione dimicabat, lethaliter ab hoſtibus vulneratus, pro civi-*
" *tate et ſuis vitam reddidit. Cal. Septembris, Anno Salutis humanæ MDCLI.*

" *Monumentum* GEORGII BROWN, *prætoris meritiſſimi, qui, hoc prætoræ munere*
" *per decennium feliciter defunctus, undisque pugnando lethaliter ab hoſtibus vulneratus;*
" *quibus vulneribus per Martem languidus, mortem, naturæ debitum, pro civitate et pa-*
" *triæ reddidit. 2do. Nonas Octobris, Anno Dom.* 1651. *Ætatis ſexageſimo.*"

two batallions of Lord Duffus's regiment are ſaid to have been ſlaughtered; and, another body ſuffered the like fate, in the ſquare called the fiſh-market. No unuſual provocation appears to have been given to this ſeverity. On the contrary, Mr. Gumble, general Monk's chaplain, and who writes his life, ſpeaks in high terms of the governor, for his gallant and brave defence. His head was, notwithſtanding, cut off and fixed upon a ſpike, in one of the abutments at the ſouth weſt corner of the ſteeple; and, till a few years ago, when the ſtone where the ſpike was inſerted, fell down, the remains of it were obſervable. The ſame indignity appears alſo to have been done to others. It is a tradition here, that the carnage did not ceaſe till the third day, when a child was ſeen in a lane, called the Thorter-Row, ſucking its murdered mother. Several perſons alſo, on this occaſion, were carried priſoners to London, probably along with the 300 officers ſurpriſed by Monk's Colonels, Alured and Morgan, at Alyth, when, collecting a body to raiſe the ſiege. Among the priſoners, were Mr. Andrew Affleck, the parſon, or firſt miniſter, and Mr. John Robertſon the Vicar. They were detained at London till ſpring 1653; and, after their return Mr. Robertſon was ſome time confined in the common priſon of Dundee. Mr. Affleck was anceſtor to the two brothers, Admiral and Captain Affleck in the royal navy. The date of this mercileſs aſſault, was the firſt of September 1651.

Though no probable account can be given of the population in remote times, the town of Dundee appears to have been long ago a place of conſiderable note. Edward I. thought it of ſufficient conſequence to be occupied by an Engliſh garriſon; and, the illuſtrious WALLACE, (with his companions John Blair, probably of the Balthayock family, and Sir N. Campbell of Lochow,) is ſaid, by tradition, to have received his education at the Dundee ſchool, and in this ſitua-

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tion, to have begun his exploits, with the death of the ſon to the Engliſh governor. Of the 4 boroughs, Edinburgh, Perth, Dundee and Aberdeen, which were of ſuch conſequence, in all the reigns, after that of Robert Bruce, as to give ſecurity for the obſervation of national treaties, it was the third in rank: Its ſhare, in the reign of James VI. of the whole public taxes, was a 25th part, and of thoſe laid upon the boroughs, ſometimes a tenth part, but more frequently a 5th; and of the 1200 merks impoſed upon the towns of Dundee, Forfar, Arbroath and Perth, for fitting out the yacht, *Mary-gallant*, to fetch home the king and queen from Denmark, the proportion paid by Dundee was 700. At the ſtorm by Monk, Gumble ſpeaks of it as a very rich and thriving place; he tells us, in particular, of 60 ſhips taken in the harbour, and ſent away loaded with booty, conſiſting chiefly of plate and money; and, diſapproving of the rapacity of the plunderers, mentions, with apparent ſatisfaction, the loſs of the whole fleet, in croſſing the bar of the river.

A calamity, probably no leſs fatal to the town of Dundee, than the ſiege and ſtorm by Monk, was the ſevere 7 years dearth in the end of the laſt century. The annual average of marriages for 5 years, was at that time reduced to 54; and from the effects of this calamity, we never recovered till ſeveral years after the rebellion in 1745. Though the union of the kingdoms put an end to the arbitrary and tyrannical proceedings of the government in Scotland, it produced a new cauſe of depreſſion to this particular diſtrict. Our ſtaple manufacture was the ſpinning and weaving the coarſe woollens, called *Plaiding*. Theſe were ſent to the Dutch market, and there thickened and dyed, for clothing to the troops in various parts of Germany. This branch of trade, we have, by the loſs of our Dutch and French privileges, loſt ſo completely ſince the Union, that now no remainder of it is to be found. The annual

average

average of the marriages, for the 5 years preceding 1746, does not exceed 56; this gives a population no greater than 5302; and from other reaſons, it is probable, that this concluſion is not much below the truth. At the croſs, in the principal ſtreet of the town, there were not in that year, above 4 or 5 houſes completely built of ſtone, all the reſt were partly of wood. No ſhop rented at more than 2 l., or at the utmoſt 3 l.; the retailers who rented them were generally poor, and three ſhops at the croſs, which three years ago were ſold for 450 l. each, were then entirely ſhut. At that time, alſo, there were only two churches, for public worſhip; and though there were no Seceding meeting-houſes, and the Independent congregation was very inconſiderable, if one church was well filled on Sundays, the other was nearly empty.

We have no regiſter of burials, that can be depended upon, except for the laſt 5 years; and this we owe entirely to the care and attention of Dr. Williſon, one of our principal phyſicians. As the inſertion of the whole would ſwell this account to too great bulk, the facts which follow, as ſeeming to be moſt important, are extracted from it. From February 1ſt. 1787 to ditto 1788, the number of burials was 552; from 1788 to 1789, in which period a very malignant kind of ſmall pox raged, the number was 867; from 1789 to 1790, it was 609; from 1790 to 1791, when the ſmall pox again raged, accompanied with the chincough, it was 840, and from 1791 to 1792, 890. The annual average of burials, therefore, for theſe 5 years, is 752; and the proportion of deaths, to the whole number of inhabitants, may, with probability, be reckoned nearly that of 1 to 31. The exceſs of the burials in 1791, above thoſe of any year, wherein the ſmall pox did not prevail, is principally to be aſcribed to freſh acceſſions of inhabitants; for, though a putrid ſore throat was at that time epidemical, I do not find, after the moſt minute inquiries, that

that it was fatal to more than 50 people. The proportion of burials, of males to thoſe of females, is nearly as 110 to 125; whereas the proportion of births, of males to thoſe of females, taken from the record of baptiſms, by a medium of averages for 5 years, at different periods, is nearly as 145 to 128. The average number of children, dying under 2, is 236: from 2 to 5, 98; and of ſtill-born children 50. The moſt fatal period to people advanced in life, is from 60 to 70, where the annual average of deaths is 57; and to young people paſt childhood, from 15 to 25, when the ſame average is 47. The moſt fatal months are January, March, and December, the averages of burials in theſe being reſpectively 88, 73, 74. But, perhaps the moſt important fact in the whole regiſter, and which ought to excite attention from the perſons moſt averſe to the practice of inoculation, is, that, while in 1787 and 1789, the average number of children dying under 5, was only 171, a ſimilar average for the years 1788 and 1790, in which the ſmall pox raged, aroſe to the aſtoniſhing ſum of 420. The whole number of people reported as dying above 90, in all the 5 years of the regiſter, is 25; of whom one was in the 99th year; another above the 100th, another in the 102d, and another probably in the 107th year of their ſeveral lives. The name of the laſt was James Peter, who died in 1790. A correſponding date of his father and mother's marriage, was certainly found in the pariſh regiſter of Dunnichen. Their marriage was ſaid to have ſubſiſted only 1 year, and he affirmed, that he was their only child.

Since the enumeration in 1788, the town continues to increaſe with greater rapidity than before; and the whole inhabitants of the town and pariſh can hardly be eſtimated at leſs than 24,000; they are certainly rated ſufficiently low at 23,000. They reſide chiefly in the town and ſuburbs; and, as the inhabitants, of what may be properly called the country

try pariſh, do not exceed 1100, (and this is nearly double their number in 1759), the town and ſuburbs of Dundee may be ſaid to contain from 22,000 to 22,500 ſouls. The return to Dr. Webſter in 1755, for the town and diſtrict, was only 12,477 ſouls; ſo that calculating the population now at the medium number of 23,500, the increaſe is 11,123 ſouls. On the borders of the pariſh, there are two villages, the North Ferry near Broughty Caſtle, part of which runs into the pariſh of Monyfieth, and our proportion of people in it is 166: the other is Loch-eye, chiefly in the pariſh of Liff; and in this our proportion is hitherto but inconſiderable.

Manufactures. The principal and ſtaple manufacture of Dundee is linen of various kinds; viz. 1. Oſnaburghs, and other ſimilar coarſe fabrics of different names, for exportation, and which alone, till lately, were ſubjected to the national ſtamps. The quantity of theſe ſtamped, between November 1788 and ditto 1789, amounted to 4,242,653 yards, valued at 108,781 l. 14 s. 2 d.; and ſubtracting from this a fourth part, ſuppoſed to be brought from ſix neighbouring pariſhes, to the Dundee ſtamp offices, there will remain for the quantity made in this pariſh, 3,181,990 yards, in value, 80,587 l. 0 s. 8 d. 2. All the different ſorts of canvas for ſhipping. This fabric is entirely confined to the town, and the quantity annually made may be rated at 704,000 yards, and valued at 32,000 l. The cloth of this kind, made by ſome of the principal manufacturers, is thought to be ſuperior in quality to any other in Britain; and, by a regulation now introduced, and for which we are chiefly indebted to Mr. Graham of Fintry, of ſubjecting it to the inſpection of public ſtamp-maſters, will probably retain its character. A proceſs is alſo known, by which the buyer, at a ſmall additional expence,

may

The quantity annually made, may amount to 16,000 yards, and may be valued at 800 l. 4. Bagging for cotton wool, in quantity 165,000 yards, and in value 5,500 l. 5. Some diaper by one company lately eſtabliſhed. 6. The greateſt part of all the linen neceſſary for houſehold purpoſes; but the quantity and value of this cannot be exactly aſcertained.

Beſides all theſe kinds of linen, the manufacture of cotton has been lately introduced, and will probably ſoon become a very important branch of buſineſs. Seven companies are already engaged in it. They employ about 400 men, women and children, in ſpinning cotton into yarn for wool. They are ſuppoſed to ſpin annually 135,000 lbs. of yarn, valued at 20,250 l.; and, with warp, which they buy from diſtant cotton mills, moſt of theſe companies have begun to work up their yarn into callicoes, handkerchiefs, and coarſe waiſtcoats. One company alſo ſpins yarn for muſlin, to the annual value of 3000 l. An Engliſh company from Lambeth is alſo engaged in eſtabliſhing an woollen manufacture, where every branch of the buſineſs, from the wool to the finiſhed cloth, is propoſed to be carried on. The looms employed in all the kinds of weaving, and in all parts of the pariſh, are from 1800 to 1900.

The manufacture of coloured thread has been eſtabliſhed in Dundee for 50 or 60 years, and was for a conſiderable time peculiar to it. This buſineſs is in the hands of 7 different companies or maſters, who uſe 66 twiſting mills, and employ about 1340 ſpinners, and 370 ſervants, to make the yarn into thread. The quantity annually made is computed at 269,568 lb. and valued at 33,696 l. The ſpinners live in diſtant parts of Scotland, where labour is cheaper than in Dundee.

The value of leather, tanned annually in Dundee, is computed at 14,200 l. About 32 perſons are employed in tanning, who uſe 5000 l. worth of oak bark; about 12 as

curriers, in dreſſing part of what is tanned for upper leathers to ſhoes; 95 in making boots and ſhoes for exportation, and 200 in ſupplying the conſumption of the town. The value of boots and ſhoes exported may be about 4385 l. As the demand for tanned leather has, for ſome years, greatly increaſ. ſed, conſiderable difficulty is found in procuring raw hides, and the price of oak bark is doubled. This buſineſs is upon the increaſe. Two new enterpriſing and active companies have of late engaged in it, ſo that probably it will be more than doubled.

Two companies are engaged in manufacturing cordage of all kinds for ſhipping, and ropes for all the various uſes of the country. They employ about 30 perſons, and they alſo carry on the whole buſineſs of ſhip-chandlers. Soap was ſome years ago manufactured to a conſiderable amount; but this buſineſs now declines, and laſt year only yielded of duty to government the ſum of 1828 l. 19 s. 0¼. It is thought that this buſineſs will not only be abandoned here, but that it will ſoon be totally loſt to Scotland. The ſuppoſed cauſes are either regulations of exciſe, partial to England, or ſuperior rigour in carrying the common regulations into execution. It is poſſible, however, that the real cauſe may be fooliſh attempts to underſell their richer Engliſh neighbours. It may here be mentioned, as an article of curioſity, that ſoap making was an art known in Dundee, as far back as the 16th century.

Within theſe 3 or 4 years, the manufacture of glaſs has been introduced, and the company engaged in it have erected two glaſs-houſes; one for bottles, and the other for the white kinds of window glaſs. They employ in the buſineſs 100 perſons, and laſt year it yielded to government a duty of 3046 l. Many perſons are alſo employed in manufacturing tobacco and ſnuff; and one company is engaged in a ſugar houſe, but of its

importance

importance to the community, no particular account has been obtained.

Beſides theſe, and ſome other branches of manufacture, omitted as being yet in their infancy, (for example, caſt iron and ſalt,) or though long eſtabliſhed, ſufficiently accounted for by the taxes they pay to Government, 2 banking companies are eſtabliſhed in Dundee; and two diſtant companies, one in Edinburgh, and one in Paiſley, have opened bank offices. The quantity of paper money, in conſtant circulation from all the four, is eſtimated at 160,000 l. Inſurances againſt fire are alſo made by a company, conſiſting of 50 or 60 perſons, whoſe property is ſuppoſed to amount to half a million; and by whom, though formed into a company only a few years ago, inſurances are already made to the value of 800,000 l.

Revenue paid to Government.—Some part of the revenue, ariſing from Dundee to Government, may be accurately or nearly aſcertained, but a much more conſiderable part muſt be left to conjecture.

Of the firſt kind are the duties of exciſe for the year, ending with the 5th of July 1792, and communicated in the moſt obliging manner, by Mr. Mitchell, ſupervisor; and they are accompanied with a comparative ſtate of the exciſe duties in 1751.

	In 1751, L. s. d.		In 1791. L. s. d.
Malt, -	811 13 1¼	- - -	1436 7 11¼
Ale and beer, -	1214 15 3½	- - -	1690 2 1
Candles, -	160 4 2	- - -	622 2 10½
Hides, -	283 11 8¼	- - -	1017 1 2
Soap, -	none	- - -	1828 19 0¼
Glaſs, -	none	- - -	3406 0 5½
Bricks, -	none	- - -	14 17 6
Total,	L. 2470 4 3	Carried over, —	L. 10,015 11 0

Cuſtom-

Brought over, —	L. 10,015	11	0
Customhouse duties for the year ending January 1. 1792, and communicated with like readiness, by Mr. Hunter clerk of the customs, - -	6341	17	11
Land-tax, and other taxes in the country part of the parish, levied by the country collector, - -	341	8	1
Town-cess, and other taxes within the royalty, levied by the town's collectors - - - -	949	19	0
Excise licences of all the various kinds, about, -	512	2	0
Ale licences, about, - - - - - -	280	18	6
Duties on 78,447 lb. of snuff and manufactured tobacco, paid at the places of original importation,	4902	18	9
Produce of the post office in 1791, about, -	1600	0	0
Of the second kind, are the duties on salt, allowing 4 bushels yearly to 5 persons, - -	690	0	0
Duties on 583½ tons of sugar, of which 7 20ths are supposed to be unmanufactured, 8 20ths refined, and 5 20ths ground or powdered, and reckoned equivalent in taxation to 621 tons, - -	9315	0	0
Duties on 47743 lb. of tea, estimated at, - -	895	2	6
Duties on stamped paper not less than, - -	1000	0	0
Excise duties on wines and spirits imported immediately from foreign parts, - - -	2030	16	6¾
Ditto on ditto, from other parts in the kingdom, according to a mean of three estimations. -	5970	0	0
Duties on innumerable other articles, manufactured soap, groceries, drugs, starch, indigo, cambric, muslin, silk, paper, newspapers, perfumery, malt-liquor, hops, &c. &c. &c., imported - -	12,000	0	0
So that the revenue arising to government, from the trade and consumption of Dundee, cannot be estimated at less than, - -	L. 56,845	14	3¾

In the last article the valuation is by no means too high, for the duty on soap alone will make up the greatest part of it; and the quantity made in Dundee does not supply one fourth of the demands of this single parish; so that it is not improbable, that a more just estimation would bring out a revenue greater than 60,000 l. Several of these sums are not, indeed, directly paid in Dundee, but they are equally real taxes upon its traders and inhabitants

habitants. With reſpect to thoſe on ale and malt, it ought not to paſs unobſerved, that they have for a long time gradually decreaſed, and do not now yield a ſum equal to its produce in 1745, when the pariſh did not contain above 6000 people. In that year the town's grant, of two pennies on the pint of ale, is ſaid to have yielded 500 l. In 1757 it gave 423 l. 9 s. and its produce in 1791 was no more than 326 l. 6 s.; this difference is ſuppoſed to ariſe, in a great meaſure, from the various taxes; by which the malt liquor here has been ſo much debaſed, that it ceaſes to be the drink uſed in ſocial meetings, or for refreſhment from the fatigues of labour; and the people, deprived of their ancient, exhilerating, and wholeſome beverage, have recourſe to intoxicating and enervating ſpirituous liquors. The increaſed uſe of theſe is certainly a moſt alarming circumſtance. They are ſold in no leſs than 179 licenſed houſes; and the number of non-licenſed ones, where they may be procured, is believed to be very great; whereas formerly the town was ſufficiently, and perhaps, too well ſupplied by five or ſix.

Shipping, Exports, Imports, &c.—On the 5th of January 1792, there were 116 veſſels, belonging to the port, navigated by 698 men, and meaſuring 8550½ tons. Of theſe, 34 were employed in the foreign, and 78 in the coaſting trade, and 4 in the whale fiſhery. By Mr. Hunter, clerk of the cuſtoms, the author of this account has been favoured with the following comparative ſtate of ſome of the principal articles of trade, in the years 1745 and 1791.

Total tonnage cleared outwards to foreign parts

	In 1745.	In 1791.
	500 tons.	1,279 tons.
Ditto cleared inwards from ditto,	1280 do.	10,520 do.
Inwards coaſt-wiſe,	no account,	40,923 do.
Outwards, ditto,	3000 do.	20,055 do.

Goods

	In 1745.	In 1791.
Goods imported. Flax from Russia,	none	2348 tons
Ditto from Holland,	74 tons	72 do.
Hemp,	none	299 do.
Tow or codillio,	none	24 do.
Clover seed,	100 lb.	51½ do.
Lintseed,	1406 hhds.	1036 hhds.
Fir timber,	98 loads	1706 loads.
Fir balks,	100	6300
Deals,	10,500	13,100
Swedish iron,	50 tons	45 tons
Goods brought coast-wise. Cotton wool,	none	35 do.
Tea from London,	none	47,743 lbs.
Porter,	none	1080 hhds.
Coals from the Forth,	no account	28,021 tons
Sugar, in 1745, no account but in 1756,	62 tons	583½ do.
Goods sent coast-wise. Linen, brown and white,	1,000,000 yards,	7,842,000 yards
Thread, white and coloured,	12,544 lbs.	130,752 lbs.
Sail-cloth,	none	280,000 yards
Cotton bagging,	none	65,000 yards
Barley or big,	3393 qurs.	23,917 yards
Wheat,	350 do.	3097 do.

To these evidences of the thriving state of Dundee, and indeed of the whole neighbouring country, a variety of others might be added. In 1772, no more than 5 or 6 houses were to be seen between the west end of the royalty and Blackness; now upwards of 100 acres have been feued out, in the same district for building on, and upwards of 4000 people settled in it. About 1770, the feu duty, even for the lands nearest the town, did not exceed 3l. or 3l. 10s. the acre, and this was supposed to be an advantageous price; now lots of 10 or 12 acres, of a much greater distance, are feued by Mr Hunter of Blackness, at 10l. and subfeued at 14l. the acre. Among the latest feus near the town, may be mentioned about 4 acres of land, chiefly under the management of the Kirk-

session.

ſeſſion. Theſe, altogether, for many years paſt, were rented at 3 l. Laſt year they were feued at 40 l. the acre. In like manner in 1754, when there were only two churches on the eſtabliſhment for public worſhip, the ſeat rents of that portion of them, which was the Town's, properly amounted to no more than 21 l. 4 s. 7 d. Now, when there are 7 eſtabliſhed churches and chapels, the ſeat rents of the ſame portion amount to 175 l.

Beſides the general advantages derived from the conſtitution of the Britiſh government, and the liberty and ſecurity its ſubjects enjoy, in all their lawful occupations, the particular cauſe of the increaſe and proſperity of Dundee is, undoubtedly, the bounty allowed by Parliament on all manufactured linens. By this the induſtry of the inhabitants was firſt ſet in motion, and encouraged; and their conſequent proſperity, if it be not an evidence in favour of bounties in general, is, at leaſt, a deciſive one, that, in ſome caſes, they are wiſe and judicious, and may be productive of the greateſt benefit. Whether the linen manufacture could now be ſupported without the bounty, or whether the ſpirit of induſtry, which is now awakened, could be eaſily and profitably diverted into other channels, is a queſtion on which it would be preſumptuous in any private perſon to pronounce, and, perhaps, any experiment on the ſubject might be dangerous.

Prices of Proviſions, Labour, &c.—The average prices of beef through the year, and without diſtinction of particular prices, is 4 s. 6 d. the ſtone, and this is alſo the general price of pork. Mutton, through the year, ſells at from 4 d. to 5 d. the pound, and veal from 3 d. to 6 d. the weight is Dutch, conſiſting of 17 oz. 4 dr. per pound. Hens have riſen to 15 d. each; chickens to 4 d. and 6 d. each; ducks to 1 s.; geeſe ſell from 2 s. 6 d. to 3 s. each; turkies from 5 s. to 8 s.; pigeons at 4 d. the pair. The wages of a maid-ſervant are from

from 3l. to 4l. yearly, and of a labouring man-ſervant from 7l. to 10l. Maſon's daily wages are from 1s. 8d. to 2s.; thoſe of houſe carpenters from 1s. 3d. to 1s. 6d. and of day labourers 1s. at an average through the year.

Conſtitution, Privileges, &c.—The privileges of the town of Dundee, as a free and royal borough, are very ancient. A charter by King Robert Bruce, dated March 14th, in the 22d year of his reign, and proceeding upon a recognition of its privileges by a jury, mentions its being poſſeſſed of them in the time of his predeceſſor, William, who began to reign in 1165; and that they were as ample as thoſe enjoyed by the town of Berwick, or by any borough in Scotland. This charter, the recognition on which it proceeds, with the deſignations of the jury, and the commiſſion to Bernard, Abbot of Arbroath, and Mr. Alex. Fraſer, Chancellor of Scotland, to preſide as King's Lieutenants at the trial, whether now in exiſtence or not, were in the poſſeſſion of the Council not above 50 years ago; and the writer of this article has had an opportunity to ſee copies of them, with tranſlations from the Latin, made by Mr. George Bruce, then rector of the grammar ſchool. Theſe rights appear alſo to have been confirmed and enlarged by many ſucceeding princes; particularly, by David Bruce, James II. James IV. Queen Mary, James VI. and Charles I. So uncommon are ſome of theſe, that by an edict of David Bruce, the villages of Coupar in Angus, Kettins, Kirriemuir, and Alyth, are prohibited from holding markets; and all perſons diſcharged, under the higheſt penalties, from attending them, *as being within the liberties of Dundee.* Beſides a confirmation of rights, Queen Mary's charter conveys to the town all the poſſeſſions of the Dominican friars, Minorites, Franciſcans, and Gray Siſters, St. Clement's church, and its chaplainries; with all their revenues and lands, among which were a third part of the lands of Craigie; and, in particular

ticular, the *place and yards* belonging to the Grey Cordelier friars, for this ſpecial reaſon, " that the former burying ground " in St. Clements church-yard was in the *middyies* of the town, " and by burying in it, *peſt* and other contagious ſickneſs might " be *ingenerit*, and made to *perſeveir*." All theſe former grants are alſo mentioned at length, and confirmed with additions, by the charter of James VI. dated at Holyroodhouſe, January 16. 1701, and finally confirmed by Charles I. His charter is called *the great charter*, and bears, that all its articles were ratified in Parliament, Sept. 14. 1641.

Ample, however, as theſe privileges were, they appear to have been continually diſputed by the Scrymſeours of Dudhope, who, for ſignal ſervices done under the illuſtrious WALLACE, had been by him created Conſtables of the caſtle, and continued to enjoy that hereditary dignity. The bounds between the powers of the Conſtable, and the privileges of the citizens, ſeem never to have been accurately determined, and conſequently have become the ſubjects of frequent controverſy, and occaſions of dangerous riot. The Conſtable's powers eſpecially appear, to have excited the greateſt jealouſies, when, as often happened, they were united to any of the offices of the magiſtracy. About the year 1604, Sir James Scrymſeour having made an attempt to render himſelf perpetual Provoſt, to change the election of the council into a mere nomination, and to ſubject all cauſes, civil and criminal, to his own authority, the greateſt commotions were excited, and the peace of the town was for many years diſturbed. The citizens, however, under the direction chiefly of the Fletcher family, at laſt prevailed; and the Scrymſeours loſt all their influence in the council, and appear to have been expelled. Reſentment for this affront ſeems to have increaſed the uſual animoſity, and it aroſe, at one time, to ſuch extravagance, that the conſtable obtained a writ of *Law-burroes* againſt the coun-

sellors, and probably the whole community; nor were they discharged from its operation, till John Fothringham of Powrie became security for them to the value of 20,000 merks. It was not till October 12. 1643, that these differences were settled, by an agreement under the direction of Sir George Halyburton of Fotherance, and Sir John Leslie of Newton, Lords of Session. Even after this agreement, many of the acknowledged powers of the Constable were grievous and humiliating to the inhabitants; and these powers were never finally abolished, till the general abolition of all hereditary jurisdictions.

The constitution of government established in Dundee, or what is called the *Set of the Borough*, though apparently republican, is a species of oligarchy, not materially differing from those established, in general, over all the towns in Scotland. The Town Council is composed of 20 persons, including the magistrates, consisting of a provost, and four bailies. The annual election of these magistrates, and also of the dean of guild, and treasurer, is on the Thursday immediately previous to Michaelmas. But the council for the ensuing year is chiefly chosen on the preceding Tuesday, and all the measures fixed, which are generally decisive in the election of the officers just now mentioned. The whole 20 counsellors assemble on that day, and chuse 8 new counsellors, of whom 5 must be taken from the Guildry, or body of free merchants, and 3 from any separate three of the incorporated trades. No more new counsellors than 8 are necessary, because the 4 bailies must be members of the new council *ex officio*. With the addition of these 8 new members, they proceed to make up *leets*, or lists, for the offices of provost, bailies, dean of guild, and treasurer. The leet for the provost is limited to people, who, at any time formerly have been bailies; the leet for bailies to former counsellors; that for the Dean of Guild to present bailies; and the *leet* for the treasurer

ſurer is alone unlimited. When two perſons have thus been *leeted*, for every one of theſe ſeven offices, the powers of two particular old counſellors, as to any farther ſhare in the election expire, and the number of old and new counſellors is reduced to 26. The *leets* are then tranſmitted to the convener of the 9 incorporated trades, to be by him laid before his deacons and their conſtituents. On the Thurſday theſe 9 deacons aſſemble in the town-hall, along with the 26 old and new counſellors, and proceed to elect from the leets, by a majority of votes, the 5 magiſtrates, the dean of guild, and the treaſurer. Thus, including the three remaining bailies, who continue in the council without election, a body of 18 new counſellors is formed for the enſuing year, and all the former offices expire. On the Tueſday following, theſe 18 chuſe the remaining two.

From this account it muſt be evident, that the formation of the new council is almoſt entirely in the power of their predeceſſors, and that a ſociety, thus conſtituted, is but in a very ſmall degree dependent upon the community, whoſe intereſts are entruſted to their management No appeal whatever is made to the Guildry, or great body of merchants, who may be conſidered as the *ariſtocracy* of the place; and the only controul the council can receive, in the election of their ſucceſſors, is from the deacons of the incorporated trades, who may be conſidered as the repreſentatives of the *people*. Unleſs, however, a conſiderable diviſion, which ſeldom happens, ſhould take place among the counſellors, and at the ſame time the deacons remain united, this controul muſt be of very little conſequence. Without, therefore, a greater degree both of intelligence and public ſpirit, than falls to the common lot of humanity, ſuch a ſociety muſt be under ſtrong inducements to conſider itſelf as a fraternity diſtinct from the community; and having different intereſts, it will certainly be ſuſpected of entertaining ſuch perſuaſions, and its conduct, e-

ſpecially when uncontroulable, as at preſent, by any ſuperior tribunal, will always be viewed with jealouſy, and is in danger of becoming, in ſome degree, arbitrary and intereſted.

It would, however, be unjuſt not to acknowledge to the honour of the magiſtrates and council of Dundee, that, in many inſtances, they have exerted themſelves with laudable zeal and ſucceſs, in promoting the public good. The building and endowing new churches, the paving and lighting ſtreets, the opening new ones, eſpecially a new paſſage to the ſhore, the building new piers, and the general improvement of the harbour, are works which they have executed within theſe 10 or 12 years, and which are both of great importance, and entitle them to no ſmall ſhare of praiſe. Many equally important, no doubt, yet remain to be done, and ſome may have been neglected; but to theſe, it is to be hoped, according as their revenues may enable them, they will not fail to turn their attention.

The revenues of the town, not appropriated to particular purpoſes, may amount annually to 2200 l. If to theſe we add the revenues of the Guildry, amounting to 80 l.; of the hoſpital for decayed burghers, amounting to 300 l.; the fund ariſing from ſome lands, but chiefly from ſeat rents, for building and repairing the churches, computed at 588 l.; the intereſt of money mortified for burſaries and ſimilar purpoſes, amounting to 60 l.; and if we alſo include 400 l. levied from poor's rates; the members of council will be found to have under their management an annual ſum not much ſhort of 4000 l.

While there was a Parliament in Scotland, Dundee was repreſented in it by one member or commiſſioner. It is now only one of 5 boroughs, who, all together, ſend but one member to the Britiſh Parliament; the other four are Perth, Forfar, St. Andrews, and Coupar in Fife. Every one of the

councils in their boroughs chuſes a *delegate*, and the 5 delegates elect their repreſentative.

Eccleſiaſtical State, &c.—It is impoſſible to aſcertain, with accuracy, the eccleſiaſtical ſtate of the pariſh, previous to the reformation. The number of religious houſes was certainly greater, than has appeared in any publiſhed accounts of eccleſiaſtical antiquities; but the ancient writings being in general loſt, and the buildings converted into private property, and variouſly demoliſhed and rebuilt, they are now incapable of being traced. It is probable, that the church dedicated to St. Clement, converted into a *Tolbooth*, or town-houſe at the reformation, and ſituated where the preſent town-houſe ſtands, had been the pariſh church; and certainly, the area behind it, now uſed for a meal-market, and the lanes, by which it is ſurrounded, compoſed the common burying ground. But, ſince the reformation, the great one built by David Earl of Huntingdon, (which, when entire, was one of the largeſt and moſt magnificient in the kingdom,) has been the pariſh church. Its form was that of a crucifix, with a very noble ſquare tower, or ſteeple, at the weſt end, through which was the great entry. The height of the tower, which is ſtill entire, is 156 feet; its area, within the walls, 27 feet, and without 40. The length of the nave was 120 feet, its height 63, its breadth 40, and the breadth of each of its ailes 30. The length of the choir is 95 feet, its height 54, its breadth 29, and the breadth of each of its ailes 14½. The length of the croſs part of the building, which had no ailes, is 174 feet, and its breadth 44. According to tradition, this church was deſtroyed by Edward I.; and probably the nave was never afterwards repaired. What had been repaired was alſo again deſtroyed in Edward VI's time, by the Engliſh, then in poſſeſſion of Broughty Caſtle; and the deſtruction, either at the firſt or ſecond time, appears to have been accompliſhed by fire.

fire. The croſs part of the building, lay uncovered till 1588, when it was again fitted up for uſe, by means of general taxations laid on the inhabitants, by the authority of the town council, and by voluntary contributions. One of the principal contributors was captain Henry Lyell of Blackneſs, who, in an inſcription, (on which are his arms, the ſame with thoſe of Lovell,) aſſumes the merit of the whole.

At the reformation, only two miniſters ſeem to have been eſtabliſhed in the pariſh, one called *the Parſon*, and the other *the Vicar*. The Scrymſeours of Dudhope, conſtables of the caſtle, were patrons of the firſt charge, and the patronage of the laſt belonged to the community. As the care of the pariſh was too laborious for two miniſters, Mr. James Robertſon the vicar, on obtaining in 1608, a fixed ſtipend of 800 merks, reſigned to the patrons his vicarage; and, about 1609, they appointed in his room an additional miniſter, Mr. William Wedderburn, who, in 1613, received alſo a fixed ſtipend, equal to that of Mr. Robertſon, and gave up to the council the more caſual and inſufficient produce of the vicarage. Though theſe tranſactions do not appear to have been authoriſed, by any decree of the Lords of Erections, and no conſent appears to have been either aſked or obtained from the patron of the firſt charge, the patronage of both the others was conſidered as the undoubted property of the community. The pariſh was thus ſupplied with three miniſters, one drawing his living from the parſonage teinds, and the other two from the various funds within the borough; and they have always officiated as colleagues in the two places of worſhip, the choir and the ſouth part of the croſs building in the ancient church. As the inhabitants were found too numerous for being accomodated in two churches, the magiſtrates, in the year 1759, fitted up the north part of the croſs building as a chapel of eaſe; and the town continuing to increaſe, they built, in 1789, a large and handſome new church, on the ſituation of the

the ancient nave; and, by a decree of the Lords of Seſſion, both were erected into churches on the eſtabliſhment, for two additional ſtipendiary miniſters, who officiate as colleagues in both by turns. As the town-council had, after the revolution, acquired the patronage of the firſt charge by purchaſe, they are now conſidered as undoubted patrons of all the five.

The ſtipends of the two ſtipendiary miniſters, on the old eſtabliſhment, are each 140 l. The firſt miniſter's ſtipend, including his glebe, and an old allowance for houſe rent, exceeds thoſe of his colleagues a few pounds. No part of it affects the teinds of the pariſh, except one chalder of meal, and another of barley, and 66 l. 13 s. 4 d. in money. With reſpect to all the three, it is to be obſerved, that 20 l. of each ſtipend is an addition made by the council, only three years ago, upon account of the increaſed expence of living, and continues no longer than the lives of each incumbent. The ſalaries of the two ſtipendiary miniſters, on the new eſtabliſhment, are no greater than 120 l. each.

Beſides theſe 5 eſtabliſhed miniſters, two others, ordained and in the communion of the church of Scotland, officiate in two Chapels of Eaſe. One of theſe chapels was built in 1772, by the joint exertions of the Kirk-Seſſion, and the 9 incorporated and united trades, chiefly bymeans of donations and charitable contributions, and continues under the management of theſe ſocieties. It is as large almoſt as any of the other churches, and its miniſter receives a ſalary of 100 l. The other was built in 1789, by a ſeparate congregation of the *Relief* perſuaſion, now, on their own application, received, along with their miniſter, into the church. He receives a ſtipend of 90 l. and the chapel may contain 800 or 900 people. A third chapel alſo, under the direction of the church of Scotland, belongs to a congregation of Highlanders, who

have lately emigrated from their native country. Their clergyman officiates in the Gaelic language, is yet unordained, and they have not been able to afford him any higher salary than 30 l. All these churches and chapels are considered as in one and the same parish, and all their ministers and elders compose only one Kirk-Session.

The dissenting congregations, with the numbers of persons, belonging only to this parish, of which they are in part composed, including their children and all occasional attendants from the parish, according to the accounts by their own ministers or principal managers, are as follows. 1. One meeting, of the *Scottish Episcopal* form, consists of a clergyman, and 370 persons. The clergyman is titular *Bishop* of one of the districts into which the people of his persuasion are distributed, 2. One *Independent* meeting, of the sect denominated *Glassites*, from the late *Mr. Glass*, has several pastors or preachers, and 1160 persons. The preachers are distinguished in the congregation by the names of *Bishop* and *Elders*. 3. One meeting of the *English Episcopal* form, consists of one clergyman and 420 persons. 4. One meeting of *Seceders*, of the *Burgher* form, has one clergyman, and 784 persons. 5. One of the *Antiburgher* sect has one clergyman, and 650 persons. Besides these, there are also other separate societies, of *Roman Catholics*, *Anabaptists*, *Bereans*, now said to be split into three sects, *Methodists*, *Unitarians*, and *Independents* of another form. The attendants of all these together, cannot exceed 400, so that the whole number of dissenters, including children, in this parish, amounts to 3784. The principal Independent congregation affords a decisive proof of the importance of early marriages to population. It was formed by Mr. Glass, about the year 1732, and at that time consisted of no more than 71 members, men and women. It has now collected 1160, and the increase is much more the effect of an

indispensible

indiſpenſible law of the ſociety, enjoining *early* marriages, than of any new acceſſions of proſelytes. Beſides the importance of the law to population, it appears, from this experiment, that it is alſo of the utmoſt conſequence to prevent licentiouſneſs, and to promote early induſtry. The uſual objections of its tendency to produce a debilitated race, and to increaſe the number of the poor, appear to be in a great meaſure frivolous; for, in conſequence of the regulations of the ſociety, very few of their poor have hitherto been burdenſome to others, and their young people do not ſeem to be inferior in health or vigour, to the ordinary natives of the town.

Charitable Funds and Diſtributions.—The funds, and annual diſtributions of charity in Dundee, are very conſiderable, and merit a more complete detail, than the writer of this article is enabled to give. Thoſe committed to the management of the Kirk-Seſſion are the principal funds; and, for the year 1791, were as follows:

Intereſt of money mortified, and rents of land acquired by ſuch money,	L. 95	4	6¾
Dues allowed by law, or cuſtom for marriages,	55	13	0
Fines alſo allowed by law from delinquents,	1	15	0
Sale of the effects of penſioners after their deaths,	35	8	3
Collections at the doors of the 4 churches, and the Chapel of Eaſe in the Cowgate,	L. 640	13	8¾
In all,	L. 828	14	6½

From this ſum, the diſtributions and other expenditure were as follows:

To 243 ſtated penſioners, of whom 196 were enrolled for life,	L. 531	0	0
In occaſional charities through the year, and to the ſame penſioners on three extraordinary occaſions, to wit, after the communions in the ſpring and autumn, and at the beginning of the year,	175	13	7
Carried over,	L. 706	13	7

Brought over,	L.	706	13 7
For nursing orphans, and children deserted by worthless parents, chiefly natural children, - - -		25	8 0
For books and education to poor children, salaries to teachers of schools in the suburbs, and stipends due by law to the ministers, from the kirk-sessions lands, - -		33	1 6
To 7 church officers or beadles, - - -	L.	51	2 8
In all, - - - - - -	L.	816	5 9
So that in the year 1791, the surplus was, - -		12	8 9½

In the year 1790, instead of a balance saved, a debt of 81 l. 5 s. 7¾ d., had been contracted, though the distributions were 85 l. 12 s. 6 d. less. But on the intimation of this to the congregations, their collections were immediately and cheerfully increased, so as to produce an annual rise of 160 l. 17 s. 0¼ d. The constant weekly allowance to pensioners, as may appear from the above statement, is no greater than 10 d. and a small fraction, and may perhaps be thought too scanty. But it ought to be considered, that it is an average allowance; that the greatest part of the pensioners are capable of earning something by their work; that the principal use of stated charities is merely to supply the deficiencies of such earning; and that, when they become so liberal as to render work unnecessary, or when living by charity ceases to be dishonourable, they are utterly destructive of prudence, foresight, sobriety and economy.

'Other funds, principally or wholely under the management of the kirk-session are,

Rents of lands, and sums mortified by Mr. Gilbert Guthrie, for educating poor boys, - - - -	L.	140	0 0
Each boy receives yearly 3 l. 6 s. 8 d. for 3 years, and as much when they end.			
Similar rents by——for the same purpose, - -		61	0 0
Other rents for poor widows, and distributed among 21 of them, - - - - -		53	14 0
	L.	254	14 0

So

So that laſt year the whole funds of charity, under the management of the Kirk-Seſſion, amounted to 1083 l. 8 s. 6½ d. Theſe funds, particularly Guthrie's mortification, will, in a few years, be conſiderably increaſed. To this, the principal part of the 4 acres of land, mentioned as feued at 40 l. the acre, belongs. It is to be obſerved, that the management and diſpoſal of all the ſeſſions funds coſts not a ſingle farthing of expence.

The annual diſtributions, from funds under the management of the Town-Council, or levied by their authority, are as follows:

From the hoſpital for decayed burghers,	L.	130	0 0
From the Guildry,		46	0 0
Poors rates levied within the royalty,		400	0 0

This laſt ſum, after paying the expence of levying and diſtribution, was laſt year divided among 120 penſioners. It began to be levied only a few years ago, for the avowed purpoſe of ſuppreſſing beggars. It has not produced this effect, and, notwithſtanding, has riſen from 100 l. to 400 l. Though this tax compels the covetous, and thoſe who rarely attend public worſhip, to take ſome part in the maintenance of the poor, and on this account, has the appearance of juſtice, it is liable to many objections. It tends to impair voluntary charity; it falls as heavily on the moſt charitable and liberal, as on the covetous and licentious; by being confined within the royalty, it takes no hold on the opulent perſons in the country part of the pariſh, the proprietors of the land eſpecially, who profit more by the induſtry of Dundee, than any other ſet of men; at the pleaſure of any magiſtracy, it may be extended beyond all juſt and moderate limits; and, being like their other funds, under their uncontroulable diſpoſal, may be perverted into an engine of borough politics, and

become in future, a grievous nuiſance. At preſent, however, it has produced no real or perceptible evils; particularly it has not, as in England, become extravagant and deſtructive to economy, nor rendered it in any degree more difficult for ſtrangers to obtain a ſettlement.

Other diſtributions are,

From the fraternity of ſeamen,	L.	390	13 6
From the general fund of the 9 incorporated trades,		56	14 0
From the particular funds of the ſame trades,		167	19 0
From the united and pendicle trades, ſuppoſed,		70	0 0
From ſeveral public and private ſocieties, ſuppoſed,		30	0 0
From the Scottiſh Epiſcopal meeting,		12	0 0
——— Engliſh ditto,		16	0 0
——— Burgher Seceding ditto, ſuppoſed,		25	0 0
——— Antiburgher ditto, ditto,		18	0 0
——— Independent meeting, who, from principle, neither give nor keep any account of their charities, ſuppoſed,		300	0 0
——— All the other religious ſocieties, ſuppoſed,		40	0 0
Beſides the charities now enumerated, there are alſo burſaries at the univerſity and grammar ſchool, in the gift of the council, amounting to,		60	0 0
Mr. Henderſon's charity ſchool for poor children,		25	0 0
A diſpenſary, on which was expended laſt year,		140	0 0
Mr. Stephen's mortification for boys at School and college, in the gift of the Provoſt, the miniſter of the Murraygate diſtrict, Mr. Dempſter of Dunnichen, and Mr. Hunter of Balſkelly, from which there is at preſent paid,		79	0 0
Dr. Brown's mortification, now in the management of his immediate truſtees, whom failing, it devolves on the Kirk-Seſſion,		128	0 0
Miſs Graham's mortification towards the education of an orphan girl,		2	5 0
	L.	1560	11 6
So that altogether, the money beſtowed laſt year, in various charities, amounted to,	L.	2377	5 3

The

The Diſpenſary was eſtabliſhed in 1782. It is entirely ſupported by voluntary contributions, and has been of the greateſt uſe. The preſident and principal benefactor is Lord Douglas. But the contributions of the remaining heritors, (a very few excepted,) either to this or to any other charitable inſtitutions of the place, notwithſtanding all the advantages they derive from it, are hardly worth the mentioning. To the Diſpenſary, it is alſo now propoſed to add an Infirmary; and the liberal and numerous ſubſcriptions already obtained, leave little reaſon to doubt, that the purpoſe will ſoon be carried into execution.

General character.—The people of Dundee have been for a long time entitled to the reputation of induſtry, regularity and economy; and, notwithſtanding the increaſe of their wealth and numbers, a juſt claim to this reputation ſtill continues. As their wealth has been almoſt entirely the reſult of great attention and induſtry, it is preſerved by the ſame virtues, and they are ſtill ſtrangers to extravagant and ruinous luxuries. One inſtance of economy and ancient ſimplicity of manners, will, in ſome parts of Britain, hardly meet with credit; that, though we have many burghers, worth from 5000 l. to 40,000 l. there are not in the whole town, more than 9 male houſehold ſervants; and of theſe, not one belongs to any perſon, who can, with propriety, be ſaid to be engaged in trade. This economy does by no means exclude cheerful and frequent ſocial intercourſe, or abridge their real comforts and recreations. It does not even baniſh a liberal hoſpitality; and inſtead of leſſening their humanity and compaſſion for the miſerable, the people of Dundee are inferior to none in generous exertions and contributions, either for the relief of particular diſtreſſes and misfortunes, or for the eſtabliſhment and maintenance of public beneficent inſtitutions.

The

The riſe of the wages of labour, has not hitherto produced any conſiderable bad effects, even upon the common people; but, on the contrary, has been generally employed to increaſe their lawful comforts, to feed and clothe them better, and to encourage them in the more early eſtabliſhment of families; and the proportion they beſtow, in all charitable contributions, at leaſt equals, if not exceeds, that of their ſuperiors in opulence. Yet it would be inconſiſtent with truth, not to mention, that proſperity has introduced among ſome, a degree of licentiouſneſs unknown in former times; and one alarming ſymptom of it ought not to be concealed, that, notwithſtanding the great acceſſions made, ſince the year 1788, to the number of inhabitants, the number of annual marriages has hardly received the ſmalleſt addition. The people of Dundee may be alſo characteriſed from their religious habits; and no where in Scotland is public worſhip better, or perhaps ſo well attended. Their numerous ſects indicate their zeal and attachment to religious principles, and perhaps an exceſs of attention to religious controverſies; but theſe give very little diſturbance to the general harmony, and inſtead of increaſing bigotry they ſeem to weaken it. Though ſome ſects, not only on their firſt riſe but even at preſent, cannot be acquitted of harſh and uncharitable opinions, concerning thoſe who do not adopt their ſentiments, mutual toleration evidently prevails; and each begins to ſuſpect, that the dictates of their own party have no better claim to *infallibility*, than thoſe of others.

As to the general ſize of the inhabitants, it is certainly inferior to that of the people in the ſouth and weſt parts of Scotland, and even of their neighbours in various parts of Fife: and though the linen manufacture be the great ſource of their opulence and increaſe, its influence does not ſeem ſo favourable as might be wiſhed to health, or friendly to the production of a vigorous and hardy race.

Remarkable

Remarkable Perſons and Families.—Among remarkable and diſtinguiſhed perſons may be mentioned, 1. ALEXANDER SCRYMSEOUR, one of WALLACE's heroic companions, the perſon to whom, after he had recovered the town from the Engliſh, he committed the reduction of the caſtle, and whom he put in poſſeſſion of the hereditary dignity of conſtable: 2. Sir JOHN SCRYMSEOUR one of his deſcendants, who became Viſcount of Dudhope, and adhering to Charles I. loſt his life in the battle of Marſton Muir: 3. His ſon who followed the fortunes of Charles II, accompanied him with a regiment to the battle of Worceſter, and returning with him at the reſtoration, was created Earl of Dundee. Beſides their dignity of conſtables, the chiefs of this family were hereditary ſtandard-bearers of Scotland. They continue to be repreſented by the Scrymſeours of Birkhill, now Wedderburns of Wedderburn, who, on the death of the Earl of Dundee, without immediate heirs, were unjuſtly ſpoiled of their honours and inheritance. 4, ROBERT PITTILLOCK, commonly pronounced *Tillock*, and now ſpelled *Patullo*. In the wars of Charles VII. of France, for the recovery of his kingdom from the Engliſh, particularly in their final expulſion from Gaſcony, he acquired the moſt ſignal honours; and was the firſt captain of the famous Scottiſh guard, then formed, and to whoſe fidelity the French kings for ſeveral centuries committed their perſonal protection. 5. JAMES HALYBURTON, deſigned on his tomb-ſtone, uncle to Halyburton of Pitcurr. To this perſon, his country is indebted, as one of the moſt early and able promoters of the reformation. By his influence chiefly, Dundee became the firſt town in Scotland, where the reformed religion was openly profeſſed. He headed the Dundee troops, who went to the defence of Perth, againſt the vengeance threatened by Mary the regent. By his able conduct in encamping and conducting the Proteſtant forces, aſſembled at Coupar, the attempt

tempt of the popiſh troops, under the French general D' Oyſel, to reduce St. Andrews and ſeize the chief leaders of the reformation, was defeated; and by him and his brother Alexander, at the head of their fellow citizens, one of the principal attacks againſt the town of Perth was carried on, and the popiſh garriſon diſlodged. He was provoſt of Dundee for 33 years. From gratitude and reſpect to his memory, his funerals were defrayed at the public expence; and, what was then reckoned a mark of peculiar honour, his grave was lined on the ſides with maſon-work, and arched over, and a monument erected to his memory. Dundee has alſo produced ſome perſons of conſiderable eminence for ſcience. It is believed, that JOHN MAR, the mutual friend of the great Baron Napier, inventor of Logarithms, and of Mr. Edward Briggs, and who brought about, and was preſent on their firſt interview at Merchiſton, was one of its native citizens. He appears to have been diſtinguiſhed by James VI. before his ſucceſſion to the Engliſh crown, and to have gone up with him to England in the royal houſehold. To another citizen, JAMES MAR, probably grandſon of the former, we owe a chart and ſoundings of the whole north ſea, ſo accurate, that, though laid down about the beginning of the preſent century, it has hitherto received few improvements of importance. By him, in particular, the bank, which bears his name, was diſcovered and delineated; and his native town is peculiarly indebted to him for his accurate draught and ſoundings of the enterance into Tay, and the whole paſſage up the river. The family of theſe eminent perſons ſtill ſubſiſts. In other branches of literature, we count the well known HECTOR BOECE the hiſtorian, who was Principal of the King's College in Aberdeen, and one of the chief reſtorers of learning in his time; and, in the *literæ humaniores*, Dr. KINLOCH, phyſician to James VI. Mr. GLEG, rector of the grammar ſchool, and Mr. GOLDMAN, merchant.

Some

Some Latin poems of the three laſt are to be found in the collection of the *Poetæ Scotigenæ*, which, for taſte as poems, and elegance as Latin compoſitions, are inferior to no modern productions.

One of the moſt eminent citizens of Dundee, in the end of the laſt, and beginning of the preſent century, was its provoſt, GEORGE YEAMAN of Murie. This gentleman repreſented the town in the laſt Scottiſh or Union Parliament, and the diſtrict of boroughs, to which the town now belongs, in the firſt and ſecond Britiſh parliaments; and to him his native country, eſpecially this part of it, is more indebted, than to any repreſentative ever ſent from Scotland. By his good ſenſe and addreſs principally, the projects, of taxing hides *by tale*, and barley for malting *by meaſure*, (than which none could have been more injurious to a country, where the former are ſo diminutive in ſize, and the latter ſo comparatively mean in quality,) were defeated; and, when the Frith of Forth was exempted from the general duty laid on all coals carried by ſea, (a duty which the poor, in countries deſtitute of coal, have ſeverely felt and bitterly complained of,) he procured, that the Tay ſhould be included within the bounds of the Forth, and that the legal limits of the mouth of this river ſhould be the Red Head in Angus, and St. Abb's Head in Berwickſhire. Dundee has alſo had the honour of being repreſented in many parliaments, by GEORGE DEMPSTER, Eſq. of Dunichen, another native citizen. Of this gentleman's merits from his country, it would be improper in his life time to ſpeak, and they cannot be ſuppoſed better known to the writer of the preſent memoir, than to all his countrymen.

Among the FAMILIES, who have had their original in Dundee, may be mentioned the truly honourable one of the FLETCHERS of Salton, diſtinguiſhed for giving birth to the celebrat-

ed and enlightened patriot, ANDREW FLETCHER. They were ſettled in Dundee as merchants, in the 16th century, and poſſeſſed of the lands of Inverpeffer near Arbroath; diſtinguiſhing themſelves, during the courſe of the 17th century, as magiſtrates of Dundee, and like their deſcendants, in vindicating its liberties, againſt the arbitrary claims and encroachments of the family of Dudhope; and from theſe anceſtors, it is probable, that he embibed ſome portion of his patriotic ſpirit. He ſprung from a ſecond ſon of this Dundee family, and his deſcendants are now its repreſentatives, the elder branch having failed ſome years ago, by the death of its laſt male, Major HENRY FLETCHER of the marines. Another branch of it is the family of Balinſhoe, which produced the two brothers, Sir ROBERT and Colonel FLETCHER, lately diſtinguiſhed in the Eaſt Indies.

The preſent Lord LOUGHBOROUGH, chief juſtice of the common pleas in England, is alſo deſcended of a family long reſpectable in Dundee. The chiefs of it were ſucceſſively town clerks for near 200 years, and frequently the town's commiſſioners to the parliament. In this ſituation they acquired the lands of Kingennie and Blackneſs, and were honoured with the title of baronets. This title is now carried by Sir JOHN WEDDERBURN of Ballendean, a native of Dundee, and male repreſentative of the family.

Advantages and Diſadvantages.—The principal advantages of Dundee are,—the noble river on which it is ſituated, opening to the inhabitants, a ready communication, not only with the London market, but with thoſe of the principal and moſt opulent countries of Europe; and alſo giving them a conſiderable extent of inland navigation:—The fertile countries in its neighbourhood, the Carſe of Gowrie eſpecially, full of thriving, rich, and intelligent farmers; whoſe induſtry, if it was firſt ſet in motion by the opulence of towns, and their increaſ-

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ing demand for country produce, now amply returns the favour, by equal demands on the towns for their merchandiſe and manufactures:—The induſtry, ſobriety, and frugality of its inhabitants, which virtues, having been confirmed by long habit, will probably continue to be reputable for a long period to come. In addition to theſe, it muſt draw the moſt ſignal benefits from the excellent turnpike roads lately conſtructed, and continuing to be extended through all the principal diſtricts of Angus, and the neighbouring parts of Perthſhire. For theſe the town is entirely indebted to the exertions of a few country gentlemen; and though its inhabitants have had no ſhare, either in the trouble or the riſk of the undertaking, they will be probably the principal ſharers in the profits; for their markets inſtead of being often ſhut up, and becoming inacceſſible, will now be open at all ſeaſons of the year, for the heavieſt goods; and the people in diſtant parts will no longer be under the neceſſity of repairing to the leſs abundant markets of inferior towns. But if Dundee enjoys theſe advantages, it is not without its diſadvantages and defects. Among theſe the following ſeem to be the moſt remarkable:—The lanes, and even ſeveral ſtreets are uncommonly narrow, and the dwellings of the inhabitants too cloſe upon one another;—the greateſt part of the families living by half dozens, as formerly in Edinburgh, under the ſame roof, with common ſtairs, without back yards or courts, and many poſſeſſing only ſingle rooms:—The late additional ſuburbs have been built without any general plan, and without the leaſt regard to health, elegance or cleanlineſs; though no ſituation perhaps in the world, preſented better opportunities to provide for all the three:—There is an almoſt total want of public walks and open places, to which ſedentary or delicate people may reſort, and children be carried for air and exerciſe. Several have been, or are about to be converted to private purpoſes: one, which is the beſt and moſt important, is generally inacceſſible, through the badneſs

of the lane that leads to it; and, the high roads being deſtitute of foot paths, thoſe who have the greateſt need of air, find themſelves, for a great part of the year, confined to their houſes, at leaſt they cannot get beyond the ſtreets; and theſe circumſtances are the more vexatious, that the inhabitants of the royalty are taxed annually about 130 l. for *road-money*, but find themſelves and their magiſtrates totally excluded, in conſequence of a late law, from any direction in the application of it:—The principal burying place is too ſmall, in proportion to the pariſh. The expence of interment in it is conſidered by the poorer people as too great. Two of the moſt ancient burying grounds in the pariſh are unincloſed, ſo that thoſe, who, for cheapneſs, have recourſe to them, ſuffer the mortification of ſeeing the remains of their friends treated with indignity; and, from the uſe of one of theſe, the poor have, of late years, been totally excluded.—But the greateſt of all the diſadvantages of Dundee, is the almoſt total want of public inſtitutions, even for the moſt ſimple and neceſſary parts of education; nor, excepting a reputable grammar ſchool, is there an opportunity for parents to have their children inſtructed in any branch of human literature; and this defect is not ſupplied by any tolerable public library.

Other diſadvantages, at leaſt cauſes of diſcontent, ariſe from the nature of ſeveral public laws and inſtitutions. Complaints of this kind are expreſſed by the trading people, who have ſuffered loſs in conſequence of the law of *perpetual entails*, or who are expoſed to ſuffer it. They think, that property of every kind ought to be liable for the debts it has given opportunity to contract; that the contrary practice is unjuſt, and the laws which authoriſe it, nothing different from *licences to a ſpecies of ſwindling*. Beſides the aſtoniſhing quantity of land in the neighbouring parts of the country, brought, of late, under this kind of ſettlement, it is believed,

that

that the proportion of this parish, subjected to it, is not much less than 3000 l. a-year.—Some complaints are also made on the subject of the late *corn law*, as tending to diminish the freedom of trade in this important article, and to render it more precarious. The merchant alleges, that, while his ship is at sea, he is not sure whether the port, to which, from confidence in the law, he ordered his corn, may not, by proclamation be shut up: and certainly it has been attended with some considerable inconveniencies; for, during the last spring, seed-corn, even from England, though often of the utmost importance to this country, and various articles of household provision, which the country does not yet supply, were, by its operation, laid under an absolute *prohibition*, or a duty which, with equal efficacy, prevented importation. The intercourse for corn was not at that time permitted, even with the county of Fife, from which we are separated only by the river; and at the present time, (November the 12th 1792,) though the harvest has been bad, and the price of grain considerably raised, two vessels with grain and meal, one of which lies in the harbour, and the other is daily expected, will not be permitted to unload their cargoes. Besides these complaints, though the people here are happily free from the *coal duty*, to which their more northern neighbours are subjected, it is only from the duty on Scottish coal; and the present sudden advance in the price of this article, from 4 s. to upwards of 6 s. for 800 weight, must, while they are not relieved by importations from England, be severely felt by all the poor.—With respect to the discontents, which prevail in Dundee, about the state and mode of the representation of the people in parliament, and that they are governed by a magistracy in a great measure independent on them, these are not peculiar to this place, but common to it with all the towns in Scotland.

One

One disadvantage of Dundee arises from its situation, and hardly admits of a proper remedy. It is the distance at which it is placed from any large fresh water river, with falls sufficient for moving the various machinery, now so important to manufactures. The nearest falls of this description are on Dighty, and in the parish of Monyfieth; but they are too distant for deriving full advantage from the population of Dundee.

Miscellaneous Observations.—In the year 1782, the corns were much damaged by excessive rains, the harvest was not completed till towards the end of November, and a considerable dearth followed. The inhabitants, however, exerted, on this occasion, their usual generosity; and at one time, with a view of alleviating the distress of the poor, the sum of 200l. was raised in the space of two days. But the intention of raising this sum was much more laudable, than the application of it. It was employed, together with the produce of other funds, in keeping the market prices of grain below the common rates of the country, a benefit in which the rich, and they who had no need, were partakers equally with the poor; and the consequence was, that they who had grain to sell, carried it to other markets, which were free from such timid and impertinent regulations, and where they received their prices immediately from the buyers, without having the trouble of applying, for any part of them, to trustees of public money. Accordingly, the supply of the Dundee market, as might have been easily foreseen, was, through the whole season, scanty and difficult; and depended entirely on the influence the magistrates could exert with country gentlemen, and the more opulent class of farmers. Even the supply of many families, who were not under the necessity of going daily to market, became a business of constant and vexatious solicitation. The

people

people of Aberdeen, where the dearth was greater, are ſaid to have acted much more wiſely, by raiſing the market price of grain, and to have advertiſed large premiums to every importer of it; and we are told, the conſequence was, that their market was filled as well as in the ordinary times of plenty; and the prices, of neceſſity, ſoon fell to their proper level. A ſmall quantity of the proviſion made by government, for the poor of the northern parts of this iſland, was alſo at this time allotted to Dundee; and the Kirk-Seſſion received ſome unſolicited donations, amounting to 60 l. for the poor under their inſpection. In theſe, the ſhare which Lord Douglas, according to his uſual humanity, contributed, was no leſs than 50 l.

In the two former centuries, the prices of various neceſſaries of life, as meal, malt, ale, leather, ſhoes, &c. were regulated by the magiſtratesand council; and in making, altering, and executing their regulations, they created much vexation to the dealers, and much uſeleſs trouble to themſelves. The price of no neceſſary of life is now regulated in this manner, except of bread made from wheat flour; and neither does the attention of the magiſtrate to this article, ſeem to be of much greater uſe, than it was to the others, where it has long been laid aſide; nor, though it ſhould be ſuppoſed of uſe, does the method of regulation adopted here ſeem to be advantageous. On the contrary, it is perhaps the very reverſe of what it ought to be; for the price of bread, concerning which all are judges, remains fixed, and the weight, which few have opportunity to examine, or even ſometimes to know, is variable. It is probable, that were this buſineſs freed from the influence of corporation laws, it might be as ſafely as any other committed to the management of thoſe engaged in it; and, that by their ſeparate intereſts and competition, it would be equally guarded from combination and abuſe. Indeed, no corporation laws whatever ſeem to be entitled to much reſpect; all of

of them tend, more or less, to create monopolies against the public; nor do they always promote the good of the very societies they were meant to favour. The prices of admission to the exercise of any business in Dundee, though not so extravagant as in other places, particularly in Aberdeen, are, notwithstanding, taxes frequently found to be inconvenient. A merchant pays to the Guildry for freedom to himself and his posterity, 8 l. 6 s. 8 d. and half this sum for freedom to himself only; an apprentice to a merchant pays 1 l.; a handycraftsman 8 l. 6 s. 8 d. for admission into any of the 9 incorporated trades; and, except at the times appropriated to public markets, no stranger can, without a considerable tax, expose his goods to sale for a single day.—Of persons belonging to Dundee, who have been condemned, banished their country for life, or executed, upon account of felonies, the writer of this account cannot, after much inquiry, find more than *three* during the whole course of the present century. Since *Bridewells*, or penitentiary houses, have been established in Edinburgh and Glasgow, Dundee has been much more pestered than formerly, with vagrants and persons of doubtful character, and *swindling* and petty thefts are more frequent. This will probably produce a *Bridewell* in Dundee. An establishment of this kind is certainly necessary, and the common prisons, and present inflictions of justice, are by no means sufficient to supply its place. With respect to our prisons, though among the best in Scotland, they are destitute of any court or area where the prisoners may enjoy the open air. This, however, is at present, the less necessary, as the laws of the country are supposed inhumanely, to exclude debtors from the privilege of breathing the same air with others; and, it is but very seldom, that felons suffer long confinement, in the prisons of places not visited by the Circuit Courts of Justiciary.

In this town, there are several public buildings; but, excepting

cepting the ancient church and ſteeple formerly deſcribed, the ſpire of the chapel in the Cowgate, and the town-houſe, none of them ſeems, as a piece of architecture, to be entitled to much attention. The laſt is certainly a building of uncommon taſte and elegance. It was planned by the elder Adams, and does him honour.

Among the regulations unfavourable to the freedom of the market, and conſequently to the intereſts of the inhabitants, thoſe might have been mentioned which relate to the trade in coals. There are only 4 births, or places at which veſſels loaded with them are permitted to deliver their cargoes; and, if theſe places are occupied, all other veſſels, however great the demand may be, are excluded, and muſt continue ſhut up, unleſs the cargoe ſhould be ſold in wholeſale to one perſon, or unleſs the maſter, if he means to retail, will conſent to ſell below the current price. The firſt occupiers, accordingly, muſt reduce their prices, or ſee their rivals carry off all their cuſtomers. The intention of this regulation was, no doubt, to prevent any unfair riſe of prices from combinations among the maſters. But its real effect is to increaſe the riſk and expence of the trade, and to induce thoſe who are engaged in it to have recourſe to other ports, rather than ſell at a diminiſhed profit, or at a loſs. Perhaps there is no branch of buſineſs, wherein thoſe intermediate dealers, often branded in law by the names of *foreſtallers* and *regretters*, would be more neceſſary, or where the encouragement of ſuch would tend more to the general benefit. When the importer muſt alſo turn retailer, the time in which he ſhould be fetching a new cargo is loſt, and he brings fewer coals in any given period to market; and he and all his ſhips company muſt be paid for their time, inſtead of one regretter.

In the foregoing account, there are, no doubt, many articles omitted; particularly the *brewing* and *ſhip-building* manufac-

tures. In the firſt, a numerous company is now engaged, but the chief part of the buſineſs is in the hands of particular brewers, denominated by the legal term of victuallers. Of theſe, there are 66 maſters, who employ 63 journeymen and apprentices. They make their own malt, and brew it into that kind of drink called *Two-penny*, which, till debaſed in conſequence of multiplied taxes, was long the favourite liquor of all ranks of people in Dundee. It was a liquor neither much boiled nor fermented, and always uſed within two months after being made.—Shipbuilding is ſaid to be executed here with great advantage and ingenuity. In it two maſters are employed, with 31 journeymen and apprentices; and 6 are employed by two boat-builders.

NUMBER XII.

PARISH OF CROMDALE.

(Counties of Moray and Inverneſs.—Preſbytery of Abernethy—Synod of Moray.)

By the Rev. Mr. LEWIS GRANT.

Origin of the Name.

CROMDALE is derived from the Gaelic language, *Crom* ſignifying crooked, and *dale* a meadow; which is literally explained by the river Spey, making a ſemi-circle, or half moon, in the place where the manſe and church are built. Cromdale has been rendered pretty famous all over Scotland, by the ſong compoſed in conſequence of a battle fought there, in the year 1690, betwixt the adherents of King William, commanded by Colonel Livingſton, and the ſupporters of the houſe of Stuart, headed by Clavers, commonly called Lord Viſcount Dundee; and wherein King William's party prevailed, killing and taking priſoners great numbers of the enemy. This action is ſaid to have put a ſtop to any farther bloodſhed on that ſcore.

Extent, Soil and Surface.—The extent of it is very conſiderable, being fully 13 Scotch miles in length, and generally 3 or 4 miles broad, in the old inhabited country; but on account of the late improvements, which are very numerous, the breadth, in ſome parts, is no leſs than from 6 to 7 miles. The ſoil is generally dry and thin, with the exception of ſome flats or low haughs, cloſe by the river Spey, which, in point of natural fertility, are equal to thoſe near the ſea ſide, which is 20 miles diſtant from every part of this pariſh. An hundredth part of the lands of Cromdale is not arable, or even green, ſo as to render it fit for paſture to black cattle or horſes. The hills and level grounds are generally covered with black heath, having ſcarce any mixture of graſs connected with it. Though theſe circumſtances quickly diſcover themſelves to the ſtranger and traveller, from the unpleaſant aſpect the country at firſt ſight exhibits, yet theſe prejudices are ſoon removed, when a perſon adverts to the utility and conſequence of places, formerly, in a great meaſure, thought barren and uſeleſs, now rendered productive of the greateſt ſource of national wealth, by the flocks of ſheep, which every where cover the face of the country; and which are now triple the number they were a few years ago, as well as proportionally increaſed in point of value. The plantations of fir, which are numerous, and are thriving faſt, will ſoon have a good effect in ſetting off the country to very great advantage.

Situation, Climate and Diſeaſes.—The pariſh lies within the counties of Inverneſs and Moray, in almoſt an equal proportion, ſome parts of it, lying next to Inverneſs, being of the ſhire of Moray, and ſome of thoſe lands, neareſt to Forres and Elgin, belonging to the county of Inverneſs. This ſeeming confuſion muſt have originated from the intereſt the different

ent proprietors, (who held the lands of this country, when ſhires were firſt formed,) had in the principal towns fixed upon as head burghs. Cromdale is generally allowed to be extremely wholeſome. Few epidemical diſeaſes happen in it. There are many inſtances of longevity as far as 90, and there are not a few, even beyond that age. Dr. Buchan, author of the Family Phyſician, had occaſion to be in this part of the country ſome years ago, when he very judiciouſly remarked, that every man's houſe was built upon a rock, meaning, that every man had a dry gravelliſh ſtance whereon to found his houſe; which, the Doctor obſerved, is more conducive to health, than all the benefits that reſult from medicine. Inoculation univerſally takes place with great ſucceſs. All prejudices on the ſcore of *predeſtination*, are now happily removed.

River and Fiſh.—The river Spey is the only one which runs through this pariſh. From its rapidity every where, it is allowed, that more water flows from it, than any other river in the kingdom. It is diſtinguiſhed for vaſt floats of wood, which cover its banks, and are daily carried down by its waters to the ſea. Sir James Grant's woods of Abernethy and Duthel, with thoſe of Rothiemurchus, lie contiguous to the Spey, and cover a boundleſs tract of country. The Spey was once famous for ſalmon, all over that extent of country, through which it paſſes; but, by a late deciſion of the houſe of Peers, an excluſive right was given to the Duke of Gordon, by means of *Cruives*, and all other human devices, to monopolize this article at the ſource of the river; which of late years has been effected with ſuch ſucceſs, that few ſalmon are to be got a ſhort way up the country; and yet the gentlemen of property, hurt by this deciſion, allow the wood belonging

belonging to this family, which often proves injurious to their arable ground, to paſs without the leaſt moleſtation.

Animals.—The white hare is frequently got in this pariſh during winter. It is as white as ſnow, and the ears are tipt with black. Roes, black cocks, and heath hens are very numerous. Horſes uſed for work, were, ſome years ago, generally bred in the country; but now, owing to the flocks of ſheep, which conſume the growth of the common paſture, they are generally purchaſed, and at a very advanced price. Farmers, on this account, have reduced their number, uſing only two in place of four, carrying on a deal of their labour with oxen, which they employ in the draught as well as in the plough. Black cattle are very numerous: they amount to 4000 or 5000 within the pariſh, while ſheep may be reckoned from 10,000 to 12,000. Goats were once numerous, but now the pariſh could ſcarcely muſter 200 of them. The wool of our ſheep is depreciated on account of the mixture of black hairs, which is aſcribed to the attempts to improve the breed in point of ſize. The quality of it far exceeds that of Badenoch wool, which is aſcribed to the ſheep being fed upon pure heath; and the connoiſſeurs in mutton attribute an uncommon fine flavour to ſheep fed in this manner.

Rent and Proprietors.—The real rent of the pariſh, of which Sir James Grant of Grant is the ſole proprietor and patron, is conſiderably beyond 2000 l. a-year. CASTLE GRANT, the ſeat of his family, is within its bounds. His men of buſineſs affirm, that they are in poſſeſſion of writings, which aſcertain their reſidence there for upwards of 500 years, without any failure in the male line all that time; and though they have had the property of the whole pariſh, for about 200 years; yet prior to this, it was divided among different heri-

tors.

tors. The price of the acre of arable land, when feued, is generally from 8 l. to 12 l. Sterling, without reckoning any thing for graſs or common paſturage.

Cultivation and Produce.—The union of farms is frequent. One man now occupies as much land, as was, 40 years ago, poſſeſſed by 5 or 6 families. The principal crops conſiſt of oats, barley and rye. The laſt has, of late years, been in no high eſtimation, from the effect it has in *ſcourging* the ground. Wheat is ſown here occaſionally in ſmall quantities. Turnips and potatoes ſucceed to a wiſh. Potatoes, in a ſhort time, will conſtitute the one half of the people's food. Sown graſs is every where to be met with, and very luxuriant crops ariſe from it. The lime quarries are opened by the proprietor. The country abounds with them. The boll of lime, which meaſures 24 Scotch pints each firlot, is ſold at 8 d. per boll. It is neceſſary to make this diſtinction, as the Banffſhire boll is leſs by a third. A lint mill is erected by the proprietor, and moſt people ſow flax with ſucceſs. A bleachfield is juſt eſtabliſhed, which bids fair to be of great advantage to the country.

Population.—There is not a ſingle ſectary of any denomination in the pariſh; the whole people being of the eſtabliſhed church. The number of ſouls belonging to the pariſh, may be ſtated at 3000, but many of them go occaſionally ſouth, during the ſummer ſeaſon, to work at roads, and other public works, which renders the amount fluctuating. The return to Dr. Webſter, in 1755, was 3063 ſouls. The births, at an average, for the years 1735, 1736 and 1737, were 80 each year: for the 3 laſt years, they did not exceed 60. —The marriages are from 10 to 12 in the year. The deaths,

deaths, from the circumſtance, that there are 3 different church-yards in the pariſh, can by no means be aſcertained.

Church, School and Poor.—The living betwixt ſtipend and element money is 75 l. Sterling. There is no victual rent. There are two glebes in the pariſh, which might be let, as the value of both, at 7 l. Sterling a-year. The manſe was built 70 years ago, and has been different times repaired ſince. The offices were lately rebuilt, and are in good order. The church is plaiſtered, being finiſhed off with great taſte. The number of begging poor exceeds 20, but theſe go ſeldom from the bounds of this country. Some times 30, or even 40, receive a part of the public funds. Many of theſe are reduced houſeholders, who would ſtarve rather than beg. When any perſon is reduced by accident, or ſome ſevere diſtemper, to poverty, the method practiſed for their relief, is by a general collection; and in juſtice to the people, it muſt be ſaid, that their liberality, on all ſuch occaſions, far exceeds what might be expected. There are no other funds beſides the public collections, which, at an average amount from 10 l. to 15 l. Sterling a-year. Much depends on the price of cattle, and the ſale of victual, which is more or leſs according to the ſeaſon. When the family of Grant reſide at Caſtle Grant, which, for ſome time paſt, has been pretty much the caſe, the collection has thereby been much enlarged, as they conſtantly attend public worſhip, in all ſeaſons of the year. Their beneficence makes every one delicate in giving them trouble, as every object of diſtreſs, within their reach, experiences their charity.

Language.—The common people ſpeak the Gaelic tongue, but the Engliſh is the prevailing language, which they pronounce with great propriety, and with very little of the brogue.

In

In all the parishes southward from this, the English alone is spoken; but here, both languages are preached daily. In a few years hence, the English will be the only language, as the people ardently wish their children to read the scriptures; and for this purpose, often, in the winter, 4 or 5 schools are employed at once in the parish at their own expence.

School.—The parochial school is taught at Cromdale. The salary is 200 merks, paid by the heritors. The emoluments of the schoolmaster, as session-clerk, with dues of baptisms, &c. amount to 3 l. or 4 l. Sterling, besides school fees.

Village.—Grantown is a village erected under the influence of the Grant family, it being little more than 20 years, since the place, where it stands, was a poor rugged piece of heath. It now contains from 300 to 400 inhabitants, some of whom are as good tradesmen as any in the kingdom. Shoemakers, taylors, weavers of wool, linen, and stockings, blacksmiths, wrights, masons, and 12 merchants keep regular shops in it. There are 2 established schools. One of the teachers has 30 l. Sterling of salary, exclusive of the emoluments arising from his office; 10 l. of which he has by way of gratuity from Sir James Grant; 10 l. as the interest of mortified money, from the presbytery of the bounds; and 10 l. from the Society for propagating Christian Knowledge; with an excellent dwelling house at Sir James Grant's expence. The boys are taught reading, writing, accounts, Latin, and French. They amount to from 50 to 80, and they excel in reading the English language grammatically. There is another school established in the town, which is taught by a woman. Young children to the number of 30 or 40 constantly attend, and are not only initiated, by her in the first principles of letters, but

the young girls receive, under her, a foundation in the various branches of female education. A brewery was eſtabliſhed in this place immediately at the firſt building of it, on purpoſe to keep the people from drinking ſpiritous liquors, and it continues to give ſatisfaction. Two bakers carry on the buſineſs of their profeſſion with ſucceſs. Butcher meat, beef, mutton, pork, &c. generally ſell at from 2½ d. to 3 d. per pound, fowls at 6 d. and 7 d. each, butter at 10 s. and 12 s. the ſtone, and cheeſe according to its quality. There are two or three public houſes in it, with an elegant town-houſe, covering a priſon, agreeable to the juriſdiction act, under the ſanction of the ſheriff of the bounds. Though it has been built for ſome years, yet few have been confined within its walls, which is a high proof of the good behaviour of the people. Grantown is, on all hands, ſurrounded with moſt excellent moſſes, affording peats of the beſt quality; the aſhes of which, when mixed with lime, make good manure for potatoes, greens, and cabbages. All kinds of roots are to be met with here, in vaſt quantities, and to as great perfection, as in any part of the kingdom; which, from its former barren ſtate, is an inconteſtible proof, how far the country at large is capable of improvement.

Roads, Wages, Fuel, &c.—The ſtatute work goes on very punctually, without the ſmalleſt murmur. Stone bridges are erected over almoſt every rivulet, either by the proprietor or the county; and of courſe, the roads are in the higheſt order. The wages of ſervants have increaſed, of late years, at a moſt amazing rate. Six pounds Sterling are commonly given to capable men ſervants in the year, excluſive of maintenance. Women have generally 40 s. Sterling of wages in the year. Cotters, or married ſervants are ſeldom employed, as the bulk of the

the people manage their farms with the help of their children. The high wages of men ſervants we attribute to the floating of wood, which finds buſineſs for all our men, from 16 to 60 years of age, who, during the warm ſeaſon, receive from 1 s. to 1 s. 2 d. for each days labour. Fuel is every where to be had, on eaſy terms, and of the beſt quality, through the whole of this country.

Taverns.—Many public houſes, by the general reſolution of the counties concerned, have of late been ſuppreſſed; and there are at preſent only 4, beſides thoſe mentioned in Grantown. Two of theſe are on the turnpike road, for the accommodation of travellers.

Antiquities.—The only antiquity in the pariſh, is the *Fortalix* at Lochindorb, where a thick wall of maſon work, (20 feet high even at this period, and ſuppoſed to have been much higher,) ſurrounds an acre of land within the Loch, with watch towers at every corner, all entire. The entrance to this place, is at a gate built of freeſtone, which has a grandeur in it, that is eaſier felt than expreſſed. Several veſtiges of houſes are found within the walls, beſides thoſe of a church, which, without difficulty, can ſtill be traced in the ruins. Great rafts, or planks of oak, by the beating of the waters againſt the old walls, occaſionally make their appearance; which confirms an opinion entertained of this place, that it had been a national buſineſs, originally built upon an artificial iſland. Tradition ſays, and ſome credit is due to the report, that the particular account of this building was loſt in the days of King Edward I. of England.

Character of the People.—They are very induſtrious, obliging, and remarkable for nothing ſo much as neatneſs of dreſs

at kirk and market, agreeable to their rank in life. The women have long been diſtinguiſhed among their neighbours for making webs, particularly thoſe of the woollen kind; and for great cleanlineſs in their houſes, which were formerly built of *feal* or turf, and lined with wood. But the practice now, with all farmers in eaſy circumſtances, is to have their houſes built of ſtone and lime, with glaſs windows, &c. and their barns and kiln of the ſame materials.

NUMBER XIII.

PARISH OF TOUGH.

(County and Synod of Aberdeen.—Preſbytery of Alford.)

By Mr. ALEXANDER URQUHART.

Name, Situation, and Extent.

THERE is no tradition, nor any record, that this pariſh has had any other name than its preſent one. It is pretty evident, that it is of Gaelic extraction. Thoſe ſkill'd in that language ſay, that it ſignifies *Northward*, or a place with a northern expoſure, which is the more probable, as there is a range of hills, which run from the ſouth eaſt to the ſouth weſt corner of the pariſh, and which ſcreen it from the ſouth and ſouth weſt. It is ſaid, that Towie, the name of a neighbouring pariſh, has the ſame ſignification, for which the ſame reaſon may, with much propriety, be aſſigned. Both names are pronounced in the Gaelic, with ſomewhat of a guttural ſound, as if they were written *Toua*. The names of many of the farm towns are purely Gaelic. The pariſh is about 22 miles diſtant from Aberdeen. Its length from S. to N. is about 5 miles, and its greateſt breadth about 3. Its form would be almoſt triangular, did not a conſiderable part

of

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of the pariſh of Lochell interſect it, ſo as to divide it into two parts, though rather unequal.

Surface, Soil, Climate and Diſeaſes.—The general appearance of this diſtrict, can neither be ſaid to be flat nor hilly. There are in it, ſeveral riſing grounds, but they are moſtly arable. The ridge of hills, which ſhelter it from the eaſt, ſouth, and ſouth weſt, naturally occaſion a pretty large bottom to the north, where there is no intervening hill between it and Keig. The ſoil is in general of a light nature, in many places very ſhallow, and abounding with ſmall ſtones. It is, however, in ſome places, particularly in the ſame grounds, very deep, mixed with moſs and extremely fertile. The air is, for the moſt part, dry and healthy. Several mineral ſprings have been diſcovered, which all ſeem to run upon iron ore. They have not been tried in any diſtemper. The diſeaſes which are moſt frequent, in this and the neighbouring pariſhes, are of the acute kind. Many of the labouring people have been afflicted with pleuriſies; but if the patients are let blood in proper time, they ſoon recover.

Produce, Cattle and Cultivation.—The annual crops are oats and barley. In ordinary years, the pariſh does more than ſupply itſelf with proviſions. The farmers ſend a good deal of meal to the Aberdeen market. The oats are generally ſown between the middle of March and middle of April, and the crop is generally reaped between the 1ſt of September and the end of October. There were lately found to be 625 black cattle, 1471 ſheep, and 113 horſes in this pariſh. The tenants pay conſiderable attention to the rearing of black cattle; and this attention has been ſufficiently rewarded, by the high prices which they have brought for ſeveral years paſt. There are 37 ploughs in the pariſh; but many of theſe are rather inſignificant,

nificant, being formed by a junction, of two or three ſmall crofters, who make up a yoke among them. There are 52 carts, but many of theſe are alſo very ſmall. There are not above 11 houſeholders, that can properly be denominated *farmers*. Many of the farms are now divided into ſmall partitions, which are here called crofts, on each of which there is a houſe and family. It is now ſo expenſive to ſtock a conſiderable farm, that ſettling upon crofts, is become much more common than formerly. Within theſe 5 or 6 years, two farms have been very much improved by a rotation of crops. One of them, the greateſt part of which is in the hands of the proprietor, has been improved by lime, which he brings from Aberdeen. About a fifth part of that farm, was, ſome time ago, let on leaſe to an induſtrious tenant, who purſues his landlord's plan. For this part, he pays more than the old rent of the whole farm; and yet, it is ſaid, that he is no loſer by the bargain. The people now begin to be more ſenſible of the advantages reſulting from raiſing turnips; and one may obſerve a ſmall ſpot of them in the corner of almoſt every croftſman's field. The late Mr. Byres of Tonley, was the firſt who ſowed turnips in the fields in this diſtrict. He was alſo the firſt who had a cart in it about 40 years ago. His ſon, the preſent proprietor, has of late very much improved his eſtate. The barren muirs, and dry ſoil, are employed in raiſing plantations of fir, which are alſo intermixed with almoſt every other ſpecies of wood common in this part of the country. Some of theſe plantations are about 10 years old, and are in a moſt thriving condition. They will not only add very much to the value of the eſtate, but alſo to the beauty of the neighbourhood. There are in theſe plantations, three natural dens, through each of which runs a ſmall rivulet. Through theſe the firs, larix, birk, and oak, make a moſt delightful appearance. One of theſe dens by nature forms a beautiful

beautiful baſon, which the proprietor has filled with water. There are, in this baſon, 3 or 4 riſing grounds, which the water does not cover. Theſe are planted with various kinds of wood and ſhrubbery. From many points of view, this forms a very pleaſing ſheet of water. The proprietor intends to put a boat upon it, ſo as occaſionally to afford a pleaſing ſource of amuſement, and a healthy exerciſe. That gentleman, ſince his return from abroad, has begun to put lime, in conſiderable quantities on his arable ground, and his ſchemes of improvement are proſecuted with vigour, ſpirit and ſucceſs.

Heritors, Rent, &c.—There are 6 heritors, none of whom has reſided for ſome years paſt, Mr. Byres only excepted. For the laſt 30 years, he lived chiefly at Rome, where he was well known, and deſervedly eſteemed, for his taſte, learning, and integrity. There has been no change of property theſe 50 years, except a very ſmall eſtate, which has been once or twice ſold within that period. *Kincraigie* one of the principal eſtates, was diſpoſed of ſome years ago by a judicial ſale; but the proprietor having thrown in many objections to the ſale, there is no ſaying how, or *when* it will be finally ſettled. The valued rent of the pariſh is 1670 l. 14 s. Scotch. The real rent does not much exceed 600 l. Sterling.

Population.—It is thought that the population has increaſed within theſe 20 years, though there is a ſmall decreaſe ſince 1755, when the return to Dr. Webſter amounted to 570 ſouls. The only cauſe to which the late increaſe can be attributed, is, the ſubdiviſion of farms, which has augmented the number of ſettlers. The whole population, about 12 months ago, amounted to 560. Of theſe, there were,—

Males,

Males,	255	Maſter wrights,	3
Females,	305	Apprentices, ditto,	3
Under 10,	118	Blackſmith,	1
Between 10 and 20,	84	Maſter taylors,	3
—— 20 and 50,	225	Taylor apprentice,	1
—— 50 and 70,	101	Maſter weavers,	3
—— above 70,	30	Weaver apprentices,	2
—— above 80,	2	Merchants or ſhop keepers,	3

This diſtrict has afforded ſome inſtances of longevity. Mr. Durno, a proprietor in this pariſh, died about 20 years ago, in the 106th year of his age. One of the name of M'Gregor, died in the Kirk Town, aged 105. As no regular regiſter of deaths has been kept, the annual average cannot be aſcertained with that exactneſs which could be wiſhed for; but, it is ſuppoſed, it will not exceed 9, during the laſt ten years. The annual average of births is about 15, and of marriages 5. The only diſſenters in this diſtrict are Seceders, of the Burgher perſuaſion, of whom there are 127, including all the children of thoſe whoſe parents are Seceders *.

Church and School.—The miniſter's ſtipend is 4 chalders of victual, one third bear, and two thirds meal, and 441. 14 s. with a manſe and glebe of ſix acres. Sir William Forbes of

* It may not here be improper to give ſome account of their origin in this pariſh. In the year 1760, the miniſter was deſirous to introduce the new method of ſinging, which he found acceptable to many of his pariſhioners. It was, however, violently oppoſed by others. The miniſter, notwithſtanding, perſiſted in his deſign; and this occaſioned a ſchiſm among his hearers. The rage of the opponents was furious. They ſoon began to think of revenging themſelves by leaving the kirk. When the party was ſufficiently formed, they built a church, and a houſe for a miniſter, who was ſoon procured. What is remarkable, is, that theſe very Seceders have ſince adopted the new mode of ſinging, which was the ſole ſource of the original rupture. Their preſent miniſter is the ſecond, who has held that office. He is a very ſocial good ſort of a man, and diſcovers a conſiderable degree of moderation.

Craigievar is patron, and titular of the teinds. The church was built in 1737, and the manſe in 1752. A new ſet of offices was built in 1790, with a ſlate roof, the firſt that has been ſo well finiſhed in the county of Aberdeen. The heritors, however, in ſeveral other pariſhes, being convinced, that this is by far the moſt durable, and conſequently, upon the whole, the cheapeſt roof, there is little doubt, when repairs are found neceſſary, but that this mode will be adopted. The ſchoolmaſter's ſalary is 100 merks. He has alſo 1 l. 7 s. Sterling, paid him as Seſſion-Clerk. For ſome years paſt, the number of ſcholars has been very ſmall. The fees for teaching are 2 s. 6 d. for Latin, 2 s. for arithmetic, 1 s. 6 d. for readiug and writing, and 1 s. for reading.

Poor.—The proviſion for the poor is ſmall. The ſeſſion fund, however, which is about 50 l., is rather increaſing. The annual collections for their relief, after deducting the clerk's ſalary, will be about 6 l. Sterling. There are 7 at preſent upon the poor's roll; but all of them are able to do ſomething for their own ſupport. Beſides the quarterly diſtributions to the poor, occaſional ſupplies are alſo given to thoſe who fall into accidental diſtreſs. Yearly collections are made in all the pariſhes of this and the neighbouring counties, for the ſupport of the *Aberdeen Infirmary*.

Inoculation.—The prejudices of the people in this neighbourhood, are ſtrongly bent againſt inoculation for the ſmall pox. Some months ago, when the preſent incumbent had a child inoculated, one man, who has a numerous young family, by a ſecond wife, (his children of the firſt marriage having ſuffered extremely by the ſmall pox,) was deſirous that his young family ſhould undergo that operation. They were accordingly inoculated, and got through remark-

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ably well; but ſo violent were the prejudices of the people, that, it is ſaid, ſome of them declared, if the inoculated children had died, they would have conſidered it as a juſt diſpenſation of Providence. It is to be hoped, however, that a few more ſucceſsful inſtances, will have a tendency to remove ſo unfortunate an idea. Above all, if the more diſcerning heads of families were attentively to read the Statiſtical Survey, it might be of conſiderable ſervice to them, in that as well as in many other reſpects.

Servants, Wages, &c.—There are only 25 male, and 19 female ſervants in this pariſh. It will no doubt appear ſtrange, that this number is ſo ſmall. Many of the houſeholders have ſons and daughters, who aſſiſt at their work; and theſe are not reckoned among the number of hired ſervants. Many of the houſeholders are crofters, and they need no ſervants. The wages of a ploughman are about 5 l. Sterling, and the wages of a female ſervant about 2 l. Many ſervants are engaged only during the weeks of the harveſt, and in that time, a man ſervant will ſometimes receive 2 l. and a woman 1 l.; though, if the weather be favourable, the harveſt will be finiſhed in the courſe of 5 weeks. The day's wages of a labouring man, are from 8 d. to 1 s. without victuals; a taylor's wages 6 d. or 7 d. and his victuals. The wages of a common labourer, when married, are ſcarcely ſufficient to enable him to bring up a family. About 20 years ago, a dozen of eggs ſold for a penny; a hen for 4 d. a pound of butter (28 oz.) at 4 d; a pound of beef 2 d. All theſe articles now give double the old price.

Roads.—The roads in this diſtrict are in a much better ſtate, than they have been, in any former period. But there is ſtill room for improvement in this reſpect. Some of the roads lie

pretty low, and, being made on a clay bottom, they become exceeding deep and heavy in the winter: nothing but raiſing them very high, and ſpreading plenty of gravel upon them, will make them tolerable in that ſeaſon. The ſtate of the roads, has lately employed the attention of the gentlemen of property in this and the neighbouring pariſhes; and, they ſeem to be thoroughly convinced, that, without good roads, the improvement of their eſtates muſt proceed very ſlowly. A plan and eſtimate of a road, (without a pull in it,) from this place to Aberdeen, was, ſome weeks ago, given in to a meeting of landed gentlemen. The plan and eſtimate have met with their approbation, and thoſe moſt intereſted in this buſineſs, have ſubſcribed 50 per cent of their valued rent, ſo that it is to be hoped, this plan will ſoon be executed. The ſtatute labour is generally commuted.

Fuel, &c.—The fuel principally uſed in this diſtrict, is peats and turf, which are in great plenty, of a good quality, and eaſily procured; the moſt remote parts being only about 1½ miles, and many not half a mile from the moſs. This may be reckoned one of the principal advantages of the pariſh. Another is, that thoſe, who live at the foot of the hills already mentioned, may keep a number of ſheep, which need no ſhepherd; and this is a conſiderable ſaving to the farmer.

Antiquities.—Little can be ſaid, with certainty, under the article of Antiquities. There was a ſhilling of Queen Elizabeth found ſome years ago in a moſs, at no great diſtance from the place where the battle of Alford was fought, between Bailly and Montroſe. It is ſaid, Bailly's men fled through this moſs, and that ſome of them were buried in it. It has, perhaps, been there ever ſince. Some time ago, a human

man body, and a ſword, were found near the ſame ſpot. Hard by this moſs, there is a ſpot of ground, called the *bleedy faulds*, where it is probable the ſlaughter has been very conſiderable in the chace. Near the ſame place, on the brow of a hill, there is a large ſtone ſtanding perpendicular, about 9½ feet round, and 12½ high, which evidently appears to have been brought there by human induſtry. Beneath it, tradition ſays, that one of Macbeth's ſons is interred. However this may be, there are pretty evident marks of Macbeth having been in this part of the country. There are the remains of an encampment, near the Kirk of Lumphannan, where, it is ſaid, he and his army defended themſelves for a conſiderable time. Near this camp, the country people ſhew where he fell, and the cairn under which he is buried. There are two or three large cairns which have never been opened; and there are ſeveral Druidical Temples in this diſtrict. One on a hill about 2 miles from the church, ſtill retains the name of *the Old Kirk of Tough.*

Diſadvantages.—Some veſtiges of the feudal ſyſtem are ſtill diſcernible in this diſtrict. Several of the tenants are bound to perform certain ſervices to the landlord. It ought, however to be remarked, that this diſadvantage, or rather hardſhip, is by no means peculiar to the pariſh, but common to all in the neighbourhood; but ſuch is the moderation of the proprietors here, that theſe ſervices are not often exacted, and never with rigour. But the principal local diſadvantage, which the pariſh labours under, is its diſtance from lime, none being nearer than Aberdeen. Limeſtone has indeed been diſcovered in the pariſh, but when fire was applied, it all run into large lumps. It is to be hoped, that, by future trials,—by digging deeper in the rock, it may yet turn out to good account.

count. It would be an invaluable source of improvement to this district, particularly if coals were got duty free.

Character, &c.—The people are in general very industrious, frugal, humane, and obliging. Their morals are thought to be stricter now than 40 or 50 years ago. Even the Seceders have lost a great deal of that fiery, intemperate zeal, which so strongly marked their character, about the time of their first settlement in this parish. There is no instance, in the memory of man, of any individual being banished or capitally convicted. The general size of the people is about 5 feet 8 inches. There are some individuals about six feet.

Miscellaneous Observations.—The principal manufacture, in this and the neighbouring parishes, is the knitting of stockings. In this the females are constantly employed, except during the weeks of harvest. In the year 1782 and 1783, great scarcity prevailed, and had not a considerable quantity of peasemeal been procured from abroad, and sent to this country from Aberdeen, many of the inhabitants must have been in danger of perishing. It ought, however, to be remarked, that the women did so much extra work, by knitting stockings, and the men by building dykes, that they earned double the sum they usually gain in the same time; so that the loss they sustained was not great, and the scarcity was but little felt.—There are two or three tippling houses in the parish, which have an evident tendency to corrupt the morals of the people. A good inn, for the accommodation of travellers, is much wanted; and, it is presumed, a proper inn-keeper would meet with good encouragement, as the public road, from Aberdeen to Strath-don and the adjacent country, passes through this parish.

No. XIV.

TOWN AND PARISH OF STIRLING.

(County and Preſbytery of Stirling.—Synod of Perth and Stirling.)

By the Rev. Mr. JAMES SOMMERVILLE, *one of the Miniſters of that Town.*

Origin of the Name.

THE town and pariſh of Stirling have the ſame name. In all records of any antiquity, it is written *Stryveline*, or *Stryveling*; and it is conjectured to have derived this name from the Scotch word *ſtryve*, becauſe of the frequent contentions about the poſſeſſion of it, which aroſe among the different clans, in the days of ancient feud and barbariſm. This, however, is mere conjecture, as all diſquiſitions about the origin of names generally are. Buchanan and other Latin authors uniformally call it *Sterlinum*. The town's ancient ſeal has, on one ſide, a crucifix erected on a bridge, with this inſcription, *Hic armis Bruti, Scoti ſtant hac cruce tuti.* On the reverſe is a fortalice, ſurrounded with trees, with the inſcription, *Continet hoc nemus et caſtrum Strivilenſe.* The town has another ſeal, which contains the arms, viz. A Wolf upon a rock, inſcribed *Oppidum Sterlini.*

Extent,

Extent, &c.—The parish of Stirling is chiefly confined to the town. The whole land in it does not exceed 200 acres. The castle, with the constabulary, by which is meant a small portion of land, formerly annexed to the office of constable, are not reckoned in the parish of Stirling. As little are the Royal Domains, or King's park. They are exempted from all parochial assessment, and are in the parish only *quoad sacra*, and that only since the chaplain ceased to officiate, or reside in the castle. The landward part of the parish lies between the town and the Forth. It extends along the south side of the river, from Kildean, about a mile above the bridge of Stirling, to the east of the town, with some parks on the the south of it. These lands, on an average, are rented at 50 s. per acre. The small village, called *the Abbey*, which occupies the place where the celebrated Abbacy of Cambuskenneth once stood, and which is situated in a northern link of the Forth, east from Stirling, has hitherto, along with the barony of Cambuskenneth, in which it is situated, been reckoned part of the parish of Stirling. What gave rise to this arrangement is not known, unless it was, that the servants belonging to the Abbacy worshipped in Stirling; or that the Canons, Monks or Friars of that monastery, performed divine service, in the church of Stirling, and formed a kind of connexion which continued to subsist after the reformation. One thing is certain, that it has subsisted; for there is actually a seat in the church of Stirling, allotted for the inhabitants of that village; and it appears, that an elder from it has sat in the session of Stirling, almost uniformly since the year 1559. The barony of Cambuskenneth pays a part of the stipend of the first minister of Stirling; but it is subject to poor's rates in the parish of Logie, and to the jurisdiction of the sheriff of Clackmannan. The commissary of Stirling also exercises his jurisdiction over it, as a part of the parish of Stirling; and the

the commiſſary of Dumblane exerciſes his juriſdiction, as lying within the pariſh of Logie.

Climate and Longevity.—The ſituation of Stirling is alſo reckoned very healthy. The height of the rock, on which it ſtands, above the level of the flat carſe grounds, no doubt contributes much to this effect. Epidemical diſeaſes are ſcarcely known. At this very time there are four or five perſons in Stirling above 90. The *Croup, or Cynanche Trachealis* *, ſeems to be moſt fatal to children; the aſthma and palſy to old age.

Burgh of Stirling.—Stirling is allowed to be a place of conſiderable antiquity. Buchanan mentions it again and again, ſo early as the 9th century, but gives no deſcription of it: and to throw any light upon this ſubject, from the town's charters, is impoſſible. The moſt ancient of theſe records is granted by King Alexander I. and is dated at Kincardine, the 18th of Auguſt, in the 12th year of his reign; whereas there is reaſon to believe, that Stirling had been incorporated long before, as the charter of Alexander is not a charter of erection, but only confers ſome additional privileges on the burghers and freemen. Alexander the I. who granted this charter, aſcended the throne anno 1107, and reigned 17 years. It therefore bears date in 1120. About the middle of the 12th century, it would appear to have become a place of royal reſidence. David I. kept his court at it, probably that he might be near to the Abbacy of Cambuſkenneth, which he founded anno 1147, and on which he laviſhed many marks of his favour. He brought the canons of that monaſtery from

* This is a diſeaſe of the *Glottis, Larynx*, or upper part of the *Trachea*, attended with hoarſeneſs, and a peculiar whizzing ſound in inſpiration, and a ſhrill ringing ſound in ſpeaking and coughing, as if the noiſe came from a braſen tube. It ſeldom attacks children before they are weaned, or after 12 years of age.

the neighbourhood of Arras, in the county of Artois. In ancient charters, they subscribe themselves *Abbates de Stryvelling*. Alexander Miln, Abbot of that place, was the first President of the Court of Session, instituted by James V. anno 1532. The Abbacy now belongs to Cowan's Hospital in Stirling, having been purchased from the predecessors of Mr. Erskine of Aloa, on whom the property of these lands was conferred at the reformation. It is probable, that Stirling grew to its present size, very soon after it became the temporary residence of royalty; and, from the most accurate attention to its situation and circumstances, it may be concluded to have undergone very little change, either in size, or in the number of its inhabitants, for the last 600 years, till very lately. But to give an account of the antiquities of Stirling, however desirable, would only be to wander into a labyrinth of conjecture. Mr. Nimmo, in his history of Stirlingshire, has said all upon this subject, that can be stated with any degree of certainty. There is no regular annal, or register, respecting it, previous to the middle of the 15th century; and the only one that reaches back to that period, or near it, is the register of sasines, commencing in 1473. The council records commence in 1597.

Situation and Improvements.—The situation of Stirling is romantic. Raised on a rock in the middle of an extensive plain, in the near neighbourhood of a winding river, which seems unwilling to part from it; and, having the full view of finely cultivated fields, bounded on the south by rising woodlands, and on the north by the Ochil hills, it is scarcely possible to imagine any landscape more beautiful or picturesque. Added to its situation, which is singularly beautiful, it has of late received many improvements, exceedingly conducive both to the comfort and conveniency of the inhabitants. Water has been brought from a considerable distance to supply the town.

Commodious

Commodious ſchool houſes, in airy ſituations, and a ſpacious market place, have been erected within theſe few years. A noble walk along the ſummit of the rock, at the very root of the ſouth wall, from the one end of the town to the other, ſhaded from the ſun by a ſhelving thicket of fine thriving trees, has been lately finiſhed at a conſiderable expence. This walk, which is perhaps the fineſt thing of the kind, that any place can boaſt of, was begun, anno 1723, by a Mr. Edmonſtoun of Cambus-Wallace, and finiſhed only in the year 1791, under the patronage of the preſent magiſtrates. Much however, as has been done to improve the beauty of Stirling, a great deal ſtill remains to be done. The caſtle and Gowan Hills, which admit of great improvement, and which could no way hurt the fortreſs, though improved to the utmoſt, remain like all other government property, as barren, rugged, and neglected, as if the ſtern Genius of the north had ſaid, *Let them never be touched by the hand of Art or Induſtry.*

From an attentive obſervation of the grounds on which Stirling ſtands, and from the beſt traditional accounts, Stirling ſeems to have been neither much increaſed nor diminiſhed, for ſeveral centuries. The court raiſed it to its preſent ſize. When that was withdrawn, neceſſity ſtimulated to induſtry and kept it up. It was erected into a royal burgh, probably as far back as the middle of the 9th century. It holds the fifth place in the rank of royal burghs, and was one of the *Curiæ quatuor burgorum*, a court which gave birth to the preſent *Convention of Burghs*. The jealous and contracted ſpirit of *incorporation*, ever tenacious of ancient cuſtoms, and hoſtile to all novelty and invention, nay, expulſive of the enterpriſing ſtranger, has kept the inhabitants of Stirling trudging on in the routine of their great-great-grandfathers, as it muſt ever do thoſe of all places, where improvement is not forced, by peculiarly advantageous local circumſtances.

Set or Conſtitution of the Burgh.—The town-council conſiſts of 21 members, 14 of whom are merchants, and 7 tradeſmen, viz. a provoſt, 4 bailies, a dean of guild, a treaſurer, 7 merchant counſellors, and 7 deacons of trade. Beſides the ordinary juriſdiction in civil cauſes, which is common to the magiſtrates of all royal boroughs, and to the ſheriffs of counties, the magiſtrates of this town have alſo an extenſive criminal juriſdiction, conferred upon them by their charters, equal to the power of Sheriffs, within their territories. Prior to the year 1781, the old council elected the new one, 11 members at leaſt of the old council being changed yearly. Six of the 7 trades ſent a leet of 4, and the bakers a leet of 8 to the council, who had power to put a negative upon the one half of each leet. Each incorporation choſe one out of the remainder, as their repreſentative in council. The burgh having been diſfranchiſed in 1775, by a ſentence of the Houſe of Peers, confirming the decree of the Court of Seſſion, his Majeſty was pleaſed, in 1781, to reſtore it to its privileges of election, by his poll warrant, in which he made the following alterations on the ſet. The guildry company of merchants, annually elect 4 members of the new council. The trades chooſe their 7 repreſentatives, without ſending leets: only the old counſel previouſly declares 4 of the old deacons incapable of being re-elected for the enſuing year. And there are ſtill at leaſt eleven of the old council changed yearly. By the new ſet, as well as the old, the provoſt, bailies, treaſurer and convener, cannot be continued in their offices more than 2 years at a time. The dean of guild being now choſen by the company of merchants, is neceſſarily changed yearly. The trades incorporated by royal charter are, the bakers, weavers, hammermen, ſkinners, butchers, tailors and ſhoemakers. The maltmen, barbers, and other profeſſions, have no repreſentative in council, nor any royal charter, but only acts of erec-

tion

tion from the town-council, about the year 1720, or betwixt 1720 and 1730. Each perſon, upon entering, pays 2 l. 2 s. 6 d. to the funds of the burgh, beſides what he pays to thoſe of his own ſociety or incorporation.

Peculiar Laws.—There is a remarkable bye-law of this community, made in 1695, which the members of council muſt annually take an oath to obſerve. By it they bind themſelves, to take no leaſe of any part of the public property, under their management, nor to purchaſe any part of it; neither to receive any gratification out of the public funds, under pretence of a reward for their trouble, in going about the affairs of the borough, or of the hoſpitals founded in it. By this bye-law, alſo, *a board of auditors* is elected annually, for inſpecting the public accounts, conſiſting of 2 members choſen by the merchants at large, and 2 choſen in like manner by the ſeven royal incorporations.

Caſtle, &c.—None can tell, when the caſtle was built, any more than the town. Even the bridge, which is doubtleſs a work of much later date, has no memorial of the date of its erection. The whole town ſtands upon a rock, ſtretching from N. E. to S. W.; and, with the caſtle, ſituated on the utmoſt prominence of the rock, towards the north, very much reſembles the ridge on which the high ſtreet and caſtle of Edinburgh are ſituated. Several of the houſes in Stirling, now ſtanding, are doubtleſs of very ancient date. In one, which was lately taken down, on the ſouth ſide of the broad ſtreet, there was a ſtone marked IIII.—*Mar's Work*, a large and aukward edifice, was begun by the Earl of that name, anno 1570, while he was regent of Scotland, but never finiſhed. The tenement, called *Argyll's Lodging*, was built partly in the year 1637, by Alexander, Viſcount of Stirling.

Churches,

Churches, &c.—The west church and tower were, it is said, erected in the time of Alexander III, or at least not later than the year 1494, when probably James V. caused it to be built, for the accommodation of some Franciscan Friars, whom he had brought into this country, and settled in a convent, almost contiguous to this church. It has no date upon it, and though of very beautiful architecture, it is now so much under ground, and so low roofed, that no reparation can ever render it a comfortable place of worship. Indeed, it has been very little employed for that purpose since the reformation, unless during the few years that Mr. Ebenezer Erskine preached in it, when the people of Stirling chose to have a third minister. The east church, the present place of worship, was erected by Cardinal Beaton, and is a more splendid and magnificent fabric, but is very little accommodated to the purposes of Presbyterian worship. It would need to be almost totally altered and repaired, to render it either elegant or convenient. The absurd pretence of its area being private property, held on no better security, than the gift or conveyance of the kirk-session, (some of the possessors indeed found upon grants from the town-council, for some trifling consideration) is the great hindrance to this most necessary reparation. The area of the churches ought never to be the property of any but the community at large. Common sense, as well as religion, dictates that the poor should have an opportunity of hearing the gospel as well as the rich.

Ecclesiastical History.—The charge of Stirling was made collegiate in the year 1651. Previous to that period, we find a Mr. Robert Montgomery, a Mr. Patrick Simpson, and a Mr. Henry Guthrie ministers of Stirling. Montgomery was deposed by the assembly, for a simoniacal compact with the Duke of Lennox, about the bishoprick of Glasgow. Mr. Henry Guthrie was afterwards bishop of Dunkeld, and wrote "Memoirs

"moirs of Scottiſh affairs from 1627 tothe death of Charles I." It appears from the council records, that this Mr. Guthrie, after his removal from Stirling, reſided at Kilſpindie. There he probably wrote his memoirs. In 1661, after the death of James Guthrie, the council ſent ſeveral deputations to invite him back to his charge in Stirling; but he declined it, on account of bad health. Mr. Nimmo mentions another Mr. Henry Guthrie, who was executed in the beginning of the reign of Charles II. on account of his activity in oppoſing the meaſures of the court. But this certainly was the celebrated Mr. James, who was beheaded in the year 1661, and who was miniſter of Stirling at that period, along with a Mr. David Bennet. There are ſome of the ſaid James's books, with the chair in which he ſat, ſtill in the manſe of Stirling. In the council records, a Mr. John Allan is mentioned as prior to Mr. Bennet *.

Mr. Ebenezer Erſkine was ſettled 3d miniſter in 1731, where he continued, till he was depoſed by the General Aſſembly in 1738. Upon this, Mr. Erſkine, and three of his brethren,

* By act of council 2. February 1663, Mr. Andrew Kynnier, miniſter of Eaſt Calder, was called and collated by the biſhop of Edinburgh as miniſter, along with Mr. Matthias Simpſon, who ſucceeded Mr. Bennet. In 1665, Mr. James Forſyth was firſt miniſter. In 1668, Mr. Patrick Murray was made 2d. miniſter, in the room of Mr. Kynnier who had died in 1664. But from the public confuſion of that period, the vacancy was not ſooner ſupplied. An act of 22d January 1676, appoints a commiſſioner to go to Edinburgh or St. Andrews, to ſpeak to the archbiſhop of St. Andrews, and offer to him the perſon whom the council has choſen to be firſt miniſter of this burgh; and to deal with his Grace effectually thereanent. The miniſter's name is not mentioned.

An Act is recorded 9th Auguſt 1679, anent ſupplying the vacancy of the 1ſt charge, by the death of Dr. William Pearſone.

28th Auguſt 1679, Mr. John Munro is preſented by the Council.

On the 10th June 1682, Mr. James Hunter miniſter at Donying, is choſen 2d miniſter, in room of Mr. Patrick Murray deceaſed.

From this period, to the 1694, there is no mention of the miniſters of Stirling in the records. From the 1694, we have Meſſrs. Robert Rule, John Forreſter, James Briſbane, Archibald M'Aulay, Charles Muir, and Alexander Hamilton.

thren, Mr. Wilſon of Perth, Mr. Alexander Moncrieff of Abernethy, and Mr. James Fiſher of Kinclaven, ſeceded from the church of Scotland, and ſtiled themſelves *the Aſſociated Brethren.* About the year 1744, ſome ſcruples were ſuggeſted to theſe brethren, then formed into a ſynod, with others who had acceded to them, about the *Burgeſs Oath*, by Mr. Moncrieff, which, in 1748, produced a ſchiſm among them.

At the head of the Aſſociate Synod remained Mr. Ebenezer Erſkine, and at the head of the other party, who called themſelves Antiburghers, appeared Mr. Adam Gibb. Mr. Gibb excommunicated Mr. Erſkine and his aſſociates. The exceptionable clauſe in the burgeſs oath runs thus: "Here I proteſt before God and your Lordſhips, that I profeſs and allow with my heart, the true religion preſently profeſſed within this realm, and authoriſed by the laws thereof; I ſhall abide thereat and defend the ſame to my life's end, renouncing the Roman religion, called Papiſtry."

The Antiburghers decreed, that it was inconſiſtent with the principles of the Seceſſion, to ſwear an attachment to the eſtabliſhed religion, after having deſerted it on account of its corruptions. The above burgeſs oath was uſed at Perth. In Stirling, there never was a word about religion in it, until ſome few years ago, the following clauſe was introduced, at the deſire of ſome of the Antiburghers, to ſcreen them from the cenſure of their miniſter and ſeſſion. "I ſwear to be a faithful burgeſs to the burgh of Stirling, to obey the magiſtrates thereof, and town officers having their lawful commands." The additional clauſe follows: "*In matters purely civil, ſo far as agreeable to the word of God.*

Since the depoſition of Mr. Erſkine, the third charge of Stirling has never been filled *. It was allowed to fall into diſuſe

* From the 1738, Mr. Thomas Turner, Mr. Daniel Macqueen, and Mr. John Muſchet, in the firſt charge. Thomas Cleland, Thomas Randal, Walter

diſuſe by the preſbytery. Whether the aſſembly gave their ſanction to this, is uncertain. A manſe was bequeathed to the miniſter of the firſt charge, during the laſt century, by a Colonel EDMOND, who was a native of Stirling, and who, after riſing to rank and affluence, as a ſoldier of fortune, gave this teſtimony of reſpect to the place of his nativity. The 2d miniſter has no manſe. They have each of them 110 l. of ſtipend. The ſtipend of the 1ſt miniſter is paid out of the tiends, and collected by the town, in conſequence of an agreement betwixt the miniſter and town to that effect. The ſtipend of the 2d is paid by the town, from an impoſt on the malt ground at the town mill. The chaplainry of the caſtle, procured through the intereſt of the town, is veſted in the firſt miniſter only, during life.

Schools.—At the grammar ſchool, which has two teachers, a rector and uſher, 70 boys, on an average, are educated annually. The preſent rector, Dr. Doig, a man of diſtinguiſhed eminence in his profeſſion, is growing up in years, and declines the trouble of boarders, otherwiſe the ſchool might be more numerous. At the writing ſchool, the number of ſcholars is annually about 100. There are two eſtabliſhed Engliſh teachers, and a teacher in Allan's hoſpital, permitted by the town, to receive Engliſh ſcholars, who may have under their care annually, about 200 children. The ſalary of the rector is 40 l. yearly, and a houſe. The other teachers have from 20 l. to 30 l. Sterling annual ſalary.

Population.—About 40 years ago, it is ſaid, ſcarcely any houſe was repaired till it fell. Even then, it was often al-

Walter Buchanan, and James Sommerville in the ſecond, have ſucceſſively filled the cure of Stirling.

lowed to lie for ſeveral years in ruins. Now, houſes are rebuilt before they are totally decayed, and within the laſt 20 years, more houſes have been built and repaired, than was done before in the courſe of half a century. Though more than 30 new houſes have been built lately in the town and environs, ſome will not admit that the population is increaſed. The inhabitants, it is ſaid, now chooſe to occupy more room.—That may be the caſe; but by the return made to Dr. Webſter, in the year 1755, the ſouls in the pariſh of Stirling amounted only to 3951; whereas, by a pretty accurate ſurvey, made in the year 1790, there were 1188 heads of families, and 4483 ſouls.—Beſides, in this liſt, there are above 30 families in the environs of the town, not included. As the inrolment of the year 1790 was deemed incomplete, a new one was made this year, (1792,) and the number of ſouls in the pariſh was found to be 4698. Since the commencement of the ſummer 1792, they are probably augmented to 5000, by the increaſe of hands employed in the Cotton manufactory.

	Miniſters	*People*
Of theſe 4698, there are belonging to the Eſtabliſhed Church,	2	2795
——— The Burgher Seceſſion,	2	1415*
——— The Antiburgher ditto,	1	172
——— Cameronians,	1	120
——— Epiſcopalians, chiefly Nonjurants,	2	89
——— The Preſbytery of Relief,		74
——— Bereans, or the diſciples of Mr. Barclay,		33
		4698

Of

* *It will not appear ſurpriſing, that there are ſo many Burgher Seceders in Stirling, when it is recollected, that the Seceſſion was begun in this place, by Mr. Ebenezer Erſkine, who, by his highly popular talents, drew ſuch numbers after him. This ſpirit, alſo, when once it is introduced, uniformly becomes hereditary. Beſides, from the ſcantineſs of room in the church, it is certain, that many take ſeats in that meeting, who are never in ac-*

tual

Of the different Profeſſions there are,

Clergymen,	8	Weavers, -	68
Phyſicians, -	3	Hammermen, -	13
Surgeons, -	3	Skinners, -	2
Writers, -	18	Butchers, -	2
Merchants -	30	Taylors, -	14
Bakers, -	12	Shoemakers, -	18

Liſt of Births, Deaths, &c. for three years preceding 1792.

Years	*Baptiſms*.*	*Marriages.*	*Burials.*
1788.	82	43	50
1789.	75	51	4
1790.	67	52	68

Manufactures.—As far back as the end of the 16th century, ſhalloons, manufactured in Stirling to a conſiderable extent, were ſent over to the Low Countries. *Bruges* was then the ſtaple port for Scotch commodities. The manufacturers miſtaking their own intereſt, and debaſing the quality of their ſhalloons, ſoon loſt, however, the advantages of that gainful branch of trade, and the town became miſerably poor. Though the manufacture was greatly hurt by ſuch conduct, yet it was never entirely dropt. Coarſe ſhalloons continued to be manufactured in Stirling; and at preſent this branch is conſiderably revived. For ſeveral years paſt, perhaps not leſs than 200,000 yards of this commodity have been annually manufactured in Stirling, and its neighbourhood. Towards the beginning of this century, and during the decay of the ſhalloon manufactory, that of the Tartan ſtarted up in its place. It continued to flouriſh till about the year 1760, but is now almoſt dwindled away. At preſent, the carpet manufacture flouriſhes. For ſeveral years, one company has em-

tual communion with them. Perhaps, through length of time, neceſſity, more than any thing elſe, obliges many to connect themſelves with thoſe, with whom, for a long time, they only ſeemed to aſſociate.

* *The liſt of baptiſms is by no means complete.*

ployed 12 looms in that work, and produced carpets of very fine colour, and the very best quality. Another company employs about 8 looms: and this year a third company has begun work, and mean to employ not less than 12 looms. There are in all betwixt 30 and 40 looms constantly employed. The dyers are reckoned eminently skilled in their profession, and the colouring of the Stirling carpets is allowed to be very fine.

The *cotton manufacture* also begins to take place here. Three companies from Glasgow give out cotton yarn to be woven, and one of them have about 40 little girls engaged at the tambour. Another company have this year got jennies; and though erected only at Whitsunday last, are just now employing 50 looms to spin their own yarn. Near 100 persons, young and old, are already employed by this new company. There may be in all 260 looms employed in weaving coarse muslin. Wool spinning is likewise carried on to a considerable extent. There are above 100 employed by one master in this work, in teasing, scouring, and combing the wool, and making it ready for the wheel.

The river Forth runs so level in the neighbourhood of Stirling, that mills cannot be erected for the purpose of manufactures. In every other respect, Stirling is favourable for them. Coals are plentiful; the rents of houses are low, and wages very moderate *.

Bunks.

* The wages of a mason per day, are 1 s. 8 d.; of a labourer from 1 s. to 1 s. 2 d. Wrights get 1 s. 6 d.; Taylors 1 s. Shoemakers are paid by the piece. A man servant gets, per annum, from 4 l. to 5 l.; a maid servant about 1 l. 10 s. per half year, or from 50 s. to 3 l. per annum. The average price of butcher meat is 4 d. per lb. throughout the year. The bear and bread in Stirling are allowed to be of the very best quality.

Banks.—There are three banks in Stirling. The Bank of Stirling; that of Campbell and Thomſon; and that of Belch and Company; beſides a branch of the Old Bank of Scotland. The laſt, and two firſt, do buſineſs to a conſiderable extent.

Fiſhery.—The ſalmon fiſhery belonging to the town, which, but a few years ago, brought a revenue of 30 l. now brings 405 l. It is let to a company, who ſend the fiſh chiefly to the London and Edinburgh markets. There was, in the late leaſe, no reſervation in favour of the inhabitants, which ſometimes occaſions murmuring, as the ſalmon is often higher priced in the Stirling market, than even in that of Edinburgh.

Hoſpitals, &c.—There are three hoſpitals. The firſt is that endowed by ROBERT SPITTAL, taylor to King James V. The date of the mortification is not on record. It is ſuppoſed to have been about 1530. The original ſum is not known. It was mortified for the ſupport and relief of poor tradeſmen. There was a houſe built for their reception, at the foot of Mary's Wynd; but it is probable they never occupied it, as there is not ſo much as a ſingle tradition where it ſtood. The funds were laid out on lands in the neighbourhood of Stirling. The preſent yearly rent of theſe lands is 221 l. Mr. Nimmo, who ſpeaks from report only, makes it 300 l.; and from the ſame ſource, makes the yearly income of Allan's Hoſpital alſo 100 l. more than it really is. At preſent, there are 44 penſioners on Spittal's Hoſpital, 16 of whom, who were deacons of trade, receive per week 1 s. 4 d.:—the reſt have weekly 1 s. 2 d. The annual expenditure, for the ſupport of the poor on this foundation, is about 1721. Sterling. The managers of this hoſpital are at preſent increaſing the funds. The charter being loſt, the patrons have no rule for diſtributing the funds but cuſtom. There is no proviſion from this hoſpital for the

widows

widows of decayed tradeſmen. There have been inſtances of this, however, though they are never admitted on the penſion liſt. This had been a much better charity; but was unhappily overlooked by the founder. A poor widow, ſtripped of charitable ſupply, at the ſame time that ſhe loſes her huſband, muſt be poor indeed.

COWAN'S HOSPITAL comes next in order. It was founded and endowed by John Cowan, merchant in Stirling, anno 1639, for the ſupport of 12 decayed guild brethren. The original mortification was 2222 l. Sterling. There was a neat genteel houſe erected by the patrons, after Cowan's death, for the reception of the brethren on whom he had entailed his charity. The ſituation of this houſe is moſt beautiful and romantic. But what is ſurpriſing, there were ſcarcely any to be found who would accept the benefit of charity, according to the appointment of the founder. The pride of the decayed brethren made them ſpurn at the idea of leaving their own houſes, and retiring into an hoſpital, to be ſupported on public charity. For upwards of 90 years, the funds were allowed to accumulate. The houſe ſtood empty for nearly the whole of that period, nor was it ever completely occupied. With the accumulated funds, lands were purchaſed. Among others, thoſe of the old Abbacy of Cambuſkenneth. The managers appointed by the founder were the town council, together with the firſt miniſter of Stirling. They knew not what to do with the revenue of the hoſpital. At length, it was reſolved, to alter the mode of diſpenſing the charity, ſtill following out the ſpirit of the inſtitution. Not only decayed guild-brethren, but their widows and daughters are admitted to a ſhare in theſe funds. The preſent income of the lands belonging to Cowan's Hoſpital is 1158 l. Sterling. There are above an hundred penſioners on this charity. They receive weekly from 1 s. 6 d. to 2 s. 6 d. each, which amounts annually

nually to about 658 l. Sterling. The ſurplus is expended in incidental charities, paying public burdens, and the intereſt of money lately borrowed to make an additional and advantageous purchaſe of lands. The funds are carefully managed, and, notwithſtanding the above large expenditures, muſt increaſe.

JOHN ALLAN writer in Stirling, in emulation, very probably, of the benevolent example of the above mentioned gentleman, would alſo engage in the eſtabliſhment of an hoſpital. He had more experience, and was determined to render his bounty more extenſively uſeful and beneficial. About the year 1725, therefore, he mortified a ſum of money, not for the ſupport of the indigent ſquanderer, the negligent, and the uninduſtrious, but for the maintenance and education of the children of decayed tradeſmen. The ſum mortified was 30,000 merks. The managers are, the town council, and the ſecond miniſter. They laid out the money on lands. The yearly rental of theſe lands, at preſent, is 298 l. Sterling. There are now 14 boys, maintained clothed and educated on theſe funds. The maſter of the hoſpital receives at the rate of 11 l. Sterling annually for each of them. They are admitted at 7 years of age, and kept in the houſe till they are 14. At leaving the hoſpital, they are allowed 100 merks to put them to a trade. The annual expenditure upon the maintenance, clothing, and education of theſe boys, is about 164 l. Sterling. According to a clauſe in Mr. Allan's will, ordering ſupply to be given from theſe funds, to any of his poor relations, who may be in indigent circumſtances, there is at preſent about 37 l. Sterling yearly, paid to eight of his relations, at the rate of 1 s. 9 d. per week. The ſurplus funds, after paying public burdens, &c. go to accumulation.

Beſides theſe charitable foundations, the funds of the guildry, or merchant company, defray the expence of educating the

the poor guild brethren's children, assist them in purchasing clothes, and paying their apprentice fees. The Kirk-Session pays to 56 paupers annually about 73 l. Sterling, at the rate of 6 d. *per* week to each. From the town's funds, there are six who receive about 16 l. Sterling annually, at the rate of 1 s. *per* week. They also pay for teaching 24 or 30 poor children to read English.

To prevent the nuisance of begging poor, a scheme, by annual voluntary subscription, was set on foot some years ago, from which about 80 paupers receive annually 156 l. Sterling, at the rate of 9 d. each per week. Besides all these charities, the Kirk-Session distributes betwixt 40 l. and 50 l. Sterling a-year to incidental poor. Nearly the same sum, or more, is distributed annually by the Burgher Secession; and the boxes of the different incorporations also give charity to a considerable extent. It is supposed, that every 12th person in Stirling receives charity.

This may seem surprising; and it will be necessary to mention some of the more obvious causes, why there are so many poor, and so great consumption of charitable funds, in such a small place as Stirling. It is generally said, that Stirling being so near the Highlands, and known to be rich in funds, a number of indigent people, while they are still capable of labour, but have little or no prospect of support at home, should infirmity or old age come on, emigrate annually into Stirling, and take up their residence there, till three years are elapsed, when they give in their claim for support, and are of course admitted as necessitous poor. It cannot be denied, but there may be some truth in the allegation, because the greater number of poor on the Stirling pension lists, are obviously of Gaelic extraction. Their names are almost all Gaelic names. Besides, there can be no doubt, that the report of rich funds has a strong attraction. This circumstance, of itself, chiefly multiplies

tiplies the poor. Increaſe the means of dependence, and the the effect is unavoidably increaſed. This is more eſpecially the caſe, if the funds are legally eſtabliſhed, and, if a certain age and deſcription entitles to a participation of theſe funds. It is more than preſumable, that all charitable ſupply, except in caſes of abſolute incapacity of labour, ſhould be caſual, exactly proportioned to the deficiency of active power, and dependent on the moſt accurate inveſtigation of the preſent circumſtances of the pauper. If this is not the caſe, it uniformly cuts the nerves of induſtry, and is a nuiſance to ſociety, rather than an advantage. The indolent and the clamorous, looking forward with ſolicitude to that period, when they ſhall undoubtedly be entitled to ſupport by certain ſtatute, remit every exertion, conſume like drones any little property that may remain to them, and fall at length, with eagerneſs, into the arms of provided and ſecured ſupport, with a haughty contempt to this ſacred dictate of common ſenſe, "That he who will not work, ſhould not eat."

The managers of the eſtabliſhed charitable funds in Stirling are perhaps as accurate, attentive, and impartial, as any ſuch body of men can be; but they muſt walk by ſtatute, and are often obliged to admit upon the funds, thoſe who both *can* and *ought* to labour for their bread. This circumſtance has an influence extenſively pernicious. Indolence is contagious. They who are capable of labour, being rendered indolent and inactive, through dependence on ſecured ſupport, gave a tincture to all their immediate connections. They are ever found among the ſauntering and the idle, and conſequently increaſe the number of the poor.

Nor can the ordinary managers of the poor's funds, however attentive, always exclude the undeſerving.—They meet too ſeldom.—They have too little time.—They cannot be at the pains to give incidental aid, the moſt uſeful and neceſ-

sary of all charity. It is easier for them and for their treasurer, to admit persons to regular and stated pensions. Stated pensions, except to the blind, the lame or the diseased, are always productive of dependence. They continue the demand on the poor's fund; they increase the number of the poor. This cause indeed is not peculiar to Stirling. It operates in every place where the administration is not in the hands of the Session, who, from the frequency of their meetings, and their thorough acquaintance with the circumstances of the poor, must ever be the most natural and judicious dispensers of public charity; and there can be no doubt, but the gentlemen of landed property, who, in many places of Scotland, have contributed to *annihilate* the Sessions, will soon find the punishment of their folly, in the enormous weight of assessment, which they must lay upon their land, for the support of the daily increasing poor.

The great number of low houses in Stirling augments the list of the poor. The proprietors of such houses, unable or unwilling to repair them, can let them only to the poor, the sluggish, or the depraved. None else will take them. In such uncomfortable habitations, the spirits of men are broken, or their health impaired; and they soon fall unavoidably on the funds of the poor.

The low rate of female labour in Stirling, is another source of poverty. The utmost a woman can earn by spinning wool, is 3 d. a-day. With this they cannot maintain themselves, pay the rent of a house, and get other necessaries. Such small encouragement destroys industry. A female having so little prospect of advantage from her labour, is at no pains to be expert in it. Many of them will rather be idle altogether than turn a wheel. When necessity urges, they are incapable of proficiency, and must either starve or beg. There are, perhaps, few places in Scotland, where the quantum of female

labour

labour is leſs, becauſe it is ſo unproductive. Manufacturers ſhould conſider themſelves as obliged to increaſe the price of female labour.

But perhaps the chief cauſe of the numerous poor in Stirling is the caſtle. This may ſeem a paradox, but it is eaſy to be explained. The ſole uſe of this fortreſs, at preſent, is to be an aſylum to invalids. About 100 of theſe are generally ſtationed in it. Theſe men, who probably enliſted at firſt, from diſlike to labour and regularity, do not find, in the army, much opportunity of becoming attached either to induſtry or ſobriety. Having generally contracted habits of thoughtleſneſs and diſſipation, they retire into the caſtle, very little qualified to enjoy the advantages of that ſituation. Secured in 6d. a-day, or looking forward to the Chelſea penſion, the low women in Stirling aſpire at a connection with them, and think, that when they are wives of caſtle ſoldiers, they ſhall never want. When theſe invalids and penſioned ſoldiers are ſober and induſtrious, they are very able, with their pay, to provide a decent ſupport for their families; but few of them are of this character. Being generally ignorant, vicious and debauched, they get wives like themſelves, or make them ſo. All their income is uſually ſpent with the day. They never get their houſes furniſhed. They live amidſt meanneſs and rags. Their minds are debaſed. Their children are trained up under the very worſt example. The fathers ſoon die, worn out with intemperance. They leave their families beggared, unprincipled and debauched. Theſe families are the nurſeries of beggars. Nearly one half of the paupers in Stirling ſpring from theſe nurſeries.

Where there is ſo much poverty, there will of courſe be much baſeneſs and degeneracy of mind. True religion only can tame the heart, and ſweeten the manners of the poor. On them, however, this is generally found to have little influence.

The ſtrong cravings of nature lead them another way. Theſe, being but ill ſupplied, produce violence, chagrin, jealouſy, and every ill paſſion. *Give* them, and they are tolerably quiet and orderly; but withhold or conſtrain, (both of which are often abſolutely neceſſary,) and they are clamorous, ſurly, invidious, and bent on every practice within their reach, however criminal it may be, to obtain what they need. The manners of the inferior ranks in Stirling, muſt therefore be neceſſarily rough, petulant and diſagreeable. Harraſſed with perpetual anxieties about daily bread, they have little or no time to think of ſuperior objects; and either will not, or cannot come within the reach of thoſe important leſſons of divine truth, which ſupport the mind of man, and render him calm, patient and compoſed, even although the field ſhould yield no corn.

But what ſtill farther induces this unwilling complaint, againſt the manners of the poor, is a circumſtance not peculiar to Stirling, though it takes place there. It is found in almoſt every town, city, and borough, throughout Great Britain, and is ſingularly diſgraceful to a great and enlightened nation. There is generally no room in churches for the accommodation of the poor. They muſt either loiter away the days of public ſolemnity, in ſloth and vicious indulgence at home, which they will very ſoon be inclined to do, or they muſt ſtand at an awful diſtance, in ſome cold unoccupied area, which very ſoon becomes irkſome and intolerable. Beſides, in ſuch ſituations, it is ſcarcely poſſible they can receive much advantage from public inſtruction. Let a remedy be provided for this evil: Let churches be built, or decent places provided for the accommodation of the poor, and their manners would ſoon be corrected, at much leſs expence, and much more effectually, than by thouſands expended on the building of bridewells and correction houſes. Charity employed in

preventing

preventing vice is charity indeed. That which is employed in *correcting* it is often mere ſelfiſhneſs.

The manners of the inferior ranks are alſo much hurt and debaſed every where, by the great number of tippling houſes, and the low price of ardent ſpirits. Of theſe, the number in Stirling has been conſiderably diminiſhed for ſome years paſt, but ought to be ſtill more ſo. In 1782, there were 94 licenſed ale houſes in Stirling. In 1790, there were only 68. The difference has ariſen probably from the additional tax. In 1782, a licence coſt 1 l. 1 s., In 1790, a licence coſt 1 l. 11 s. 6d. If the legiſlature would increaſe the tax upon the retail of ardent ſpirits, it is probable ſuch a ſtep would contribute much to prevent the growing depravity of the people. It would diminiſh the number of thoſe neſts of vitiation. It would leſſen their acceſſibility, eſpecially to the weaker ſex, who, from many circumſtances, are too eaſily led to haunt them. One of theſe muſt be particularly mentioned, though not peculiar to Stirling. While females are ſervants in families of ſuperior rank, or even in the houſes of the better kind of tradeſmen, inſtead of receiving abundance of plain and wholeſome food, which is their due, they are fooliſhly indulged with luxuries, which they can taſte no more the moment they become the wives of honeſt labourers. Feeling this change of ſituation, which occaſions diſagreeable reflections, and ſubjected to the uneaſineſſes unavoidably connected with their change of ſtate, they betake themſelves to ardent ſpirits to kill their griefs, and are thus inſenſibly led into habits of intoxication, which ruin themſelves, their intereſts, and their families in every reſpect. There is no cauſe of increaſing immorality, among the lower ranks of the people, more abundant than this. There is none, which the care of magiſtrates and rulers ought to be more employed to prevent. If the mothers of families are corrupted, virtue muſt be gone. Maſters ſhould have regard to the future intereſts of their ſervants

vants, more than to their present indulgence. Magistrates and rulers should render the venom, which poisons the morals of the people, as inaccessible as possible.

This is more in their power, and vastly more practicable, as well as likely to be more efficient in remedying material evils, than the system so much in vogue among our present scioliſts in government, who are for pulling down every thing, in order, as they pretend, to build up a more perfect and beautiful edifice. Let the revenue laws be reviewed *. By them, the people have been in a manner compelled to use spiritous liquors, for want of wholesome beer. The present mode of gauging the brewer, and of farming the duties to the distiller, has the unavoidable effect of ruining the former, and encouraging the latter. The consequence is, that the brewery, in most parts of Scotland, produces a thin vapid sour stuff, under the name of small beer, which is all that the common people can possibly get for their money, unless they go to the expence of English porter, now become the beverage of the more opulent. The poor labourer, finding that the beer he purchases neither warms nor nourishes him, flies unavoidably to ardent spirits, now selling at a very reduced price.

Besides, the distiller works, as it is called, *against time*, i. e. he pays so much annually per gallon, for the contents of his still, and works without controul. It is said, that a distiller can now charge his still, no less than 25 times in 24 hours, instead of once or twice as formerly, when he was regularly surveyed. This pours in so great a quantity of the commodity to the market, that it cannot miss being cheap. Hence the labourers take whisky, with a little bread to their breakfast. It inebriates and subverts the minds of men, women and

* Sanabilibus ægrotamus malis.

and children, emaciates their bodies, renders them unfit for labour, ruins their perſons, corrupts their hearts, and leads them to think of plots, rebellion and every evil work. Take the tax off the brewery, and lay it on the diſtillery, and it is impoſſible to ſay how much the virtue and morals of the people would be improved. This is an object ſurely worthy of a wiſe and virtuous adminiſtration. Theſe obſervations were unavoidable, from an attentive ſurvey of the manners of many among the lower ranks of the people.

Character.—With reſpect to the manners of the inhabitants in general, there is a ſobriety, order, and decency among them, ſcarcely to be expected. The great body of the people, in Stirling, even of the principal people, do not yet think it below them to attend religious ordinances; and, there are few who allow themſelves, in the practice of jaunting, or making excurſions on the Lord's day, for the ſake either of buſineſs or pleaſure. Hence, there is among them, an external decorum and ſoberneſs of mind, a freedom from giddineſs, extravagance, and diſſipation, which reſpect for religious inſtitutions alone can produce. Urbanity and ſocial intercourſe are not unfrequent among them. The only thing which interrupts this is political jealouſy,—a dæmon, which, at certain ſeaſons, unhappily rages too much in almoſt every little burgh throughout Scotland. Would magiſtracy uniformly maintain the dignity of that ſituation, and exert itſelf with ſpirit or boldneſs ſolely for the public good, without any regard to the prolongation of their honour, but juſt as it reſults from public ſuffrage and opinion, this evil would nearly expire. So far as this evil reſults from diſſentient principles in religion, it is leſs ſuſceptible of cure. For this, no remedy can be found, but the reſtoration of religion itſelf, which always renders men forgiving

ing, affectionate and gentle, and uniformly unites them into one.

Miſcellaneous Obſervations.—Stirling being ſituated on the iſthmus, betwixt the Forth and Clyde, is, by means of its bridge, the great thorough-fare of the north of Scotland. There are only two inns in it which deſerve the name. Theſe are ſpacious and good.—The county meetings are uſually held in Stirling. There is no public room, or hall for this purpoſe.—Stirling is one of the ſeats of the Circuit Court.—The only jail in the county is here. The number of priſoners is generally not great. For theſe three laſt years, there have been only two criminal trials. Petty thefts and debt are the ordinary cauſes of impriſonment.—The Falkirk diſtrict of the county, being the moſt populous, and no public magiſtrate reſiding there, it uniformly furniſhes the greateſt number of priſoners.—The banditti always croud to a populous place, where there is no eſtabliſhed authority. There ſhould be, in every county, a public work-houſe, for the confinement of the pilferers and forners, who are found to be of that county. Baniſhment only increaſes their neceſſity of ſtealing.

In the council houſe of Stirling is the *Jugg*, appointed by law to be the ſtandard of dry meaſure in Scotland. It is ſtatuted and ordained, that the wheat firlot ſhall contain the full of this jugg twenty one times and one fourth; and that the firlot for barley, malt and oats, ſhall contain it 31 times. The great number of public tranſactions, which have taken place in Stirling, and in the caſtle, would, of themſelves, fill a volume; and, if deemed neceſſary to the Statiſtical account, can be found in Nimmo's hiſtory, and the Encyclopaedia Britannica, under the article STIRLING.

NUMBER XV.

PARISH OF KELTON.

(County and Preſbytery of Kirkcudbright.—Synod of Galloway.)

By the Rev. Mr. THOMAS HALLIDAY.

Names, Situation, River, Extent and Soil, &c.

KELTON conſiſts of three united pariſhes, *Kelton*, *Gelſton*, and *Kirkcormock*. Near the S. E. boundary of the pariſh, there is the veſtige of an old chapel, called *Kirkmirren*, ſuppoſed to have been deſigned for a Chapel of Eaſe. The etymology of theſe names is uncertain: probably they are either of Celtic or Saxon original.

The great military road from Dumfries to Port Patrick, runs through the pariſh for the ſpace of four miles, in a direction nearly from N. E. to S. W. It is ſeparated from the pariſhes of Tongland and Balmaghie by the Dee, a river abounding with ſalmon of the richeſt quality and flavour.

Kelton is about 6 miles in length. In breadth, it is very unequal. At a medium, it is nearly three miles, and contains an area of above 9500 ſquare acres. The ſoil of the

pariſh is exceedingly various, generally thin. In ſome places, it is a fine loam; in others, it is a deep watery till, eſpecially on the ſmall hills of a conical figure, with which the pariſh abounds. Theſe little hills are all arable; but they render the ſurface very uneven. The moſt luxuriant crops are produced, in general, when the ground is well manured with dung, lime, or marl. Lime is imported from England at 1s. Sterling per Carliſle buſhel. In the north end of the pariſh, there is abundance of the fineſt ſhell marl. On the S. and S. W. borders of the pariſh, there are ſome hills, moſtly covered with heath. The higheſt of theſe is ſteep and rocky, and riſes 1100 feet above the level of the ſea.

Climate and Diſeaſes, &c.—Kelton is ſeldom viſited with thoſe fogs, or noxious damps, which are unfriendly to health. The air is, in general, dry and ſalubrious. No diſeaſes are known to prevail in the pariſh, but ſuch as appear in other places of the country, that are deemed healthful. Rheumatic complaints ſeem to prevail moſt. Fevers of different kinds now and then appear, and ſometimes conſumptions, &c. The ravages of the ſmall pox are greatly prevented by the humane and ſucceſsful plan of inoculation. Inſtances of longevity have not been a wanting in Kelton. Seventy is not reckoned old age. Numbers arrive at 80 years, and ſeveral at 90, and upwards. There is a woman now living in the pariſh, aged between 97 and 100 years; and a woman died lately at the town of Caſtle-Douglas, having reached the long period of 107 or 108 years. She remembered King William the III's cavalry paſſing through this country to Ireland in 1689. The heavieſt rains here are from the S. E., South, and S. W.; and the ſtrongeſt winds are from the W. and S. W.

Produce

Produce and Exportation.—The chief produce of Kelton is oats, which are of a very good quality. A conſiderable quantity of barley, and *bigg*, or bear, is raiſed in the pariſh; and ſome wheat. Rye, peaſe, and beans, are not much cultivated; but there is plenty of potatoes for home conſumption, and a good deal for exportation. The lands are generally laid down, or ſown out, with rye-graſs and clover. Few have yet paid attention to Turnips. The average exportation of grain is, of late years, about 2000 bolls, each boll containing 11 Wincheſter buſhels, or 22,000 Wincheſter buſhels in whole. The markets are, the north of England, and the weſt of Scotland. The oats, when well cleaned, yield rather more than a ſtone of meal per buſhel. One great hindrance to improvements, in this place, is the high multures. Hemp and flax are not much attended to in this pariſh.

Black Cattle, Sheep, &c.—The ſtaple commodity of Galloway, which comprehends the ſhire of Wigton, and ſtewartry of Kirkcudbright, is black cattle and ſheep. Beſides what are uſed in home conſumption, many thouſands of black cattle are annually driven to the Engliſh markets. The black cattle in Kelton amount to above 2000, are ſtrong made, and of a middle ſize. The ſheep do not exceed 1000. Thoſe fed upon the hills are of the ſmall old breed of the country; thoſe fed on the lower and improved grounds, are much larger; generally of a mixed Engliſh breed, and have finer wool; but are ſtronger, and not ſo pleaſant to the taſte, as the ſmall kind. There are above 300 horſes in the pariſh.—There are 50 ploughs, and 89 carts employed in huſbandry.

Population.—The preſent ſtate of population in Kelton is 1600 ſouls. The return to Dr. Webſter, in 1755, was 811;

increaſe 789. The proportion the ſexes bear to each other is about 90, or 91 males to 100 females. No diſtinct regiſter of births, marriages and deaths, has been kept in Kelton, ſince the year 1727; and therefore, the different ages of the inhabitants cannot, with any ſort of preciſion, be aſcertained. The increaſe of population has been very conſiderable in the pariſh ſince the year 1765, and is ſtill advancing, with rapid progreſs. Marriages and births are become very frequent, becauſe of the continual increaſe of the inhabitants.

The different profeſſions are as follows;

Merchants,	14	Hair-dreſſer,	1
Square-men or wrights,	9	Bakers,	2
Smiths,	7	Maſons,	14
Tailors,	10	Slater,	1
Weavers,	14	Stocking weaver,	1
Butchers,	3	Sadler,	1
Surgeon,	1	Tobacco ſpinners,	2
Shoemakers,	5	Carriers,	2
Clockmaker,	1		
In all,			88

Church, Schools, and Poor.—The King is ſole patron of the united pariſhes. The ſtipend of Kelton, as ſettled in the year 1788, is 80 l. Sterling neat, excluſive of a glebe of about 15 acres. The manſe and offices were rebuilt in the year 1777.—There are three ſchools in the pariſh, but they are very poorly endowed. One of theſe has only 2 l. 8 s. 9 d. another 2 l. 10 s. and the principal ſchool about 8 l. 4 s. Sterling of annual ſalary, excluſive of ſchool wages, which are very low in this place. Above 50 ſcholars uſually attend each of theſe ſchools.—The poor are, for the moſt part, ſupplied by the collections made in the church. There are not above 12 at preſent upon the liſt. The collections for the poor amount to about 24 l. Sterling per annum, at an average.

There

There are no mortifications in Kelton for the uſe of the poor. The church was rebuilt in the year 1743. In 1783, a large aile was added to it; and ſtill, it is by far too ſmall for the accommodation of the people.

Fuel.—Peats are the fuel that has been commonly uſed in Kelton; but they are now become very ſcarce, as the moſs in moſt places, is nearly exhauſted. No coal has yet been found in this country, and the expence of that article from England is exceedingly high. Coals, at preſent, in the port of Kirkcudbright, are ſold at 1 l. 8 s. Sterling per ton, excluſive of cartage, which, to the conſumer in Kelton, raiſes the price to about two guineas per ton *.

Rent, Heritors, &c.—The rental of Kelton, as it ſtands upon the Ceſs Roll, is 3598 l. Scotch. The real rent is above 450 l. Sterling. There are 18 Heritors in the pariſh, 7 of whom reſide.

Villages and Markets.—There are two villages in the pariſh, both upon the military road, about a mile and a half diſtant from each other. At the ſouth weſt village, called *Rhonhouſe* or *Kelton Hill*, there is held on the firſt Tueſday after the 17th day of June, O. S. an annual horſe fair, the largeſt, perhaps, of any in Scotland, where there is, generally, a very fine ſhew of all ſorts of horſes. To this fair, vaſt numbers of horſe-dealers reſort from England, Ireland, and the eaſt, ſouth, and weſt of Scotland. Many chapmen and hawkers frequent Kelton Hill fair. Upon the hill adjoining to the village, where the fair is held, many large and well covered tents are erected by people from Dumfries, Kirkcudbright,

* The ton of coal at Kirkcudbright, is 38 cwt. at 7 ſtone Engliſh each cwt.

Kirkcudbright, Gatehouſe of Fleet, &c. ſtored with proviſions and all ſorts of liquors, for the accommodation and refreſhment of thoſe whoſe buſineſs calls them to the fair; and, conſidering the vaſt concourſe of people upon that occaſion, they generally diſpoſe of their articles to advantage. The fair laſts only one day. At this place too, a weekly market for black cattle is held upon Monday, beginning in October, and ending in December, every year.

Trade and Manufactures.—The other village, formerly called *Carlinwark*, now erected into a free and independent burgh of barony, and denominated *Caſtle-Douglas*, after the ſuperior, is ſituated at the north corner of the Carlinwark Loch. Within the limits of this burgh, there are, at preſent, between 600 and 700 inhabitants, where, 26 years ago, there were not 20. At this town a banking branch is now eſtabliſhed; and, two companies are engaged in the manufacture of cotton: one of theſe companies, (in which the ſuperior, William Douglas Eſq. of Caſtle-Douglas, a gentleman of great property, and principal heritor of the pariſh, is concerned,) proceeds upon a pretty large ſcale. Here, likewiſe, a ſoap-work, brewery, tannery, and woollen manufactory, are in contemplation. One great hindrance, however, to the eſtabliſhment and carrying on of extenſive manufactures in this place, with ſucceſs, and to advantage, is the ſcarcity of fuel. Should a plan be adopted whereby to remedy that inconvenience, it would tend much to the benefit of Kelton, and this country in general. Were the tax taken off the importation of coals from England, that ſalutary end would, perhaps, in a great meaſure, be attained. In regard to population, the town of Caſtle-Douglas, is increaſing with rapidity, and needs only manufactures to render it conſiderable *.

Wages,

* There is a poſt office at Caſtle-Douglas, where mails are diſpatched and received every day, to and from all the principal poſt-offices in Great Britainand Ireland.

Wages, Servants, &c.—The common rate of wages given to a man ſervant, fit for every branch of huſbandry, is from 8 to 9 guineas per annum. And the wages given to the beſt women ſervants, are from 3 l. 10 s. to 4 l. 10 s. per annum. Forty years ago, the very beſt men ſervants received no more than 2 l. per annum, and the beſt female ſervants 15 s. Sterling. The common rate of wages, then, was conſiderably lower than is ſtated above. Cotter's wages are now about 15 l. Sterling per annum. Tradeſmen have 1 s. 8 d. per day, and ſome receive more, excluſive of victuals. The number of men ſervants in Kelton, including cotters, of whom there are 30, amounts to about 100. The female ſervants are nearly double that number.

Mills.—There are three corn mills in the pariſh, one barley mill, and one flax mill. Though flax is not much attended to in Kelton, the mill is ſupplied from the neighbourhood around *.

Lake and Marl.—Near the north corner of the pariſh, there is a lake, commonly called *The Carlinwark Loch*, along the weſt ſide of which runs the military road. The extent of this loch, before it was partly drained in the year 1765, was 116 ſquare acres. Ten feet of water were then taken off from it by a cut, or canal, to the water of Dee. Now it is only 80 ſquare acres in extent. This loch is one great ſource of improvement to Kelton and the neighbourhood. It contains in

land. About ſix years ago, the poſtages received at this office, amounted only to about 48 or 50 l. Sterling, and did not defray the expence of the eſtabliſhment. Now it yields a revenue of 140 l. Sterling per annum, and is ſtill upon the increaſe.

* The rate of living bears a full proportion to the increaſe of wages. It is a well known fact, that 50 years ago, 50 l. was more than equal to 150 l. now; ſo great has been the advance of every article of living. Proviſions, &c. of of all kinds, ſtill continue to riſe in their price.

in itself, and the mosses adjoining, an inexhaustible fund of the very best shell marl. The marl is taken out of the loch by means of boats and ballast bags, wrought with a wheel; a mode that is pretty expeditious; and it is taken out of the mosses, in the way of throwing, usually practised in other parts of the country.

Improvements.—Since the loch was drained, the face of the country, all around, has undergone a very wonderful change in point of improvement. Not only Kelton, but the parishes of Buittle, Crossmichael, Balmaghie, Parton, Balmaclellan and Kells, reap the benefit of the marl, from the Carlinwark Loch and its vicinity. Marl is carried from the Loch in flat bottomed boats, along the canal to the Dee, in large quantities, for the improvement of the lands on each side. It is conveyed up the river, by means of these flats, as far as New Galloway, to the distance of 15 or 16 miles *. Before the late improvements in husbandry, the crops in this place were, in general, very light; and the grain, in quantity and quality, inferior, by far, to what it is now.

Antiquities.—At the N. E. boundary of the parish, there is the vestige of an old Druidical temple, near to which there is an abundant spring of excellent water. It was, probably held sacred to the worship of the pagan God, *Thor*. From this temple, the farm in which it is situated, seems to have derived its name, *Thors* or *Tors*, plural, being now divided into *upper*, and *nether*.

When the water was let out of the Carlingwark loch, in the year 1765, at the mouth of the drain next to the Loch, there

* In the Carlingwark Loch, there are pikes, perches and eels, which are consumed in the neighbourhood.

there was found a *dam*, or building of ſtone, moſs, and clay *, which appears to have been deſigned for deepening the Loch. Before it was drained, there were two iſles in the Loch, the

* Beſides the ſtone dam mentioned above, there was one of oak wood and earth, at the end of the town of Caſtle Douglas, now covered by the military road. About this place, many horſe-ſhoes were found, ſunk deep in the mud, of quite a different make from thoſe now in uſe. Several very large ſtag heads were got in the Loch; a large braſs pan was alſo found in it. Near the S. W. corner of the Loch, a braſs *pugio*, or dagger, 22 inches long, and plated with gold, was raiſed from the bottom in a bag of marl. The pugio is in the poſſeſſion of Mr. Gordon of Greenlaw. On the weſt ſide, near the ſouth corner of the Loch, between it and the military road, there is a ſmall piece of riſing ground, in view of the caſtle of Thrieve §, and diſtant from it, a full mile, called *The Gallows Lot*. On the top of this, ſtood a gibbet or gallows, upon which were executed thoſe whom Douglas, Lord of Thrieve Caſtle, thought proper to criminate. Here, it is ſaid, M'Clelland of Raeberry, Lord Kirkcudbright, was put to death by the command of Douglas, notwithſtanding the king's letters demanding his releaſe. This circumſtance proved fatal to Douglas, his family and intereſt, in this part of the country. The remains of Raebery lie buried in the church of Kirkcormock, as appears from the inſcription upon a grave-ſtone there. In the centre of a cairn, near Gelſton, was found a ſtone coffin, above 7 feet long, and 3 feet wide, in which were human bones, in length and thickneſs, larger by far than the now common ſize; alſo a braſs or copper helmet, with ſome other implements of war, greatly corroded. Not far from this place, a nicely carved urn was dug out of the earth, filled with a reddiſh duſt. On the hills, near the S. E. boundary of the pariſh, there are the veſtiges of two large Daniſh or Saxon encampments, of a circular form, and not far from one another; the one 117, and the other 68 paces in diameter, ſtrongly fortified with triple walls of ſtone, of a great thickneſs. In the S. E. border of the pariſh, likewiſe, there has anciently been a pottery. The place, where the clay had been dug up for the work, is ſtill very diſcernible, and the fragments of earthen ware are freqnently to be ſeen in the fields adjoining. From this work, the farm, in which it was ſituated, has derived its name, *Potterland*. There are ſeveral beautiful moats in the pariſh, and the ruins of a caſtle that belonged to the Lords of Kirkcudbright, which had been ſurrounded with a wide and deep ditch, filled with water.

§ *The Caſtle of* THRIEVE *ſtands upon an iſland ſurrounded by the Dee, and belongs to the pariſh of Balmaghie. An accurate account of this ancient and famous Caſtle may be ſeen in Mr.* GROSE'S *Antiquities.*

one near the north end, and the other near the ſouth end of it. Theſe iſles were places of reſt, for large quantities of water fowls, of various kinds, which annually came and bred there; even wild geeſe, it is ſaid, have been ſometimes known to breed on theſe iſles. There was always a tradition in the pariſh, that there had been a town in the Loch, which ſunk, or was drowned; and that there were two churches or chapels, one on each of the large iſles: There is alſo a tradition, that the cannon, with which James the IVth. battered the caſtle of *Thrieve*, was made, (that is, the ſtaves were put together and hooped,) at Buchan's Croft on the weſt ſide of the Loch. One of the balls, weighing 48 pounds, picked out of the wall of Thrieve, is now at Greenlaw. The veſtige, or foundation of an iron forge, was diſcovered on the ſouth iſle. Around it, likewiſe, there had been a ſtone building, or rampart; and, from this iſle, to the oppoſite ſide, on the N. E. there is a road of ſtone ſecured by piles of oak wood, with an opening, ſuppoſed to have been for a draw-bridge. In ſeveral places of the Loch, canoes were found, which appear to have been hollowed, after the manner of the American Savages, with fire. On a ſmall iſle, near the north end of the Loch, there was found a large iron mallet or hammer, ſtained on one end with blood. It is now in the hands of the Antiquarian Society at Edinburgh, and is ſuppoſed to have been an inſtrument uſed by the ancient Druids, in killing their ſacrifices. On ſeveral of the little iſles in the Loch, were large frames of black Oak, neatly joined. There are two ſmall iſles, that have been evidently formed by ſtrong piles of wood driven into the moſs and marl, on which were placed large frames of black oak. The tops of theſe were fully ſix feet under water before the Loch was drained. The deſign of theſe works is not at preſent known.

Character.

Character, &c.—The inhabitants of Kelton are, in general, an intelligent, polite, ſocial, and hoſpitable people. In regard to elegance in houſes, neatneſs of dreſs and genteel living, they are equal, if not ſuperior to their neighbours around them. The ſentiments of the people of Kelton, with reſpect to religion and morality, are, for the moſt part, rational, juſt, and free from bigotry.—None belonging to the pariſh, in the memory of the oldeſt now living, have ſuffered the pains of law for any capital crime.—There are four noted inns in the pariſh, and many ſmall tippling houſes. Theſe little gin ſhops have a ruinous effect, upon the health and morals of the lower claſſes of the people; the adopting, therefore, ſome effectual meaſure for their ſuppreſſion, would be a buſineſs not unworthy the attention of thoſe, to whom the police of the country is intruſted.

NUMBER XVI

PARISH OF APPLEGARTH.

(*County and Synod of Dumfries.—Presbytery of Lochmaben.*)

Situation, Rivers, Extent, &c.

THE parish of Applegarth, or Applegirth, lies in that part of the shire of Dumfries, which was formerly called the Stewartry of Annandale. The river Annan divides it from the parishes of Lochmaben and Johnston, and the water of Dryfe, for a considerable way, from the parish of Dryfdale. These two waters join together about a mile below the church. The southermost part of the parish, is of a triangular form. Its greatest length from south to north, is about 6, and its greatest breadth from west to east, about 5 miles. The distance from Dumfries, the county town, is about 11 miles, and from Annan about 12.

Produce, Soil, &c.—These are also the nearest sea-port towns, and to one or other of these ports, the grain produced in the parish is usually carried, and from thence exported either to England or Greenock. The barley is commonly sent to Liverpool,

Liverpool, and the oat meal to Greenock, to ſupply Glaſgow, Paiſley, and the weſt country, from which there is ſometimes a conſiderable demand. The lands in the pariſh, in general, are good, eſpecially upon the banks of Annan and Dryfe. There is a good deal of what is called *holm* land, which bears very good crops of barley and oats. Sowing of wheat is not much uſed in the pariſh, nor in this part of the country. Lime, which is now greatly uſed as a manure, is brought, at the diſtance of 12 miles, from the ſouthermoſt part of the pariſh, and is alſo carried to the high grounds, where the ſoil is not ſo good; and in general good crops are produced after liming.

Roads, &c.—The great turn-pike road from Carliſle to Glaſgow and Edinburgh, paſſes through the pariſh, from ſouth to north, about ſix miles. This road was made about 15 years ago, and has been of the higheſt advantage to the improvement of this neighbourhood. A mail coach, from London to Glaſgow, paſſes through the pariſh, every day, along the ſaid turn-pike road; and carriers almoſt daily from Glaſgow to Carliſle, and the manufacturing towns in England. There is a ſtage in the pariſh, viz. Dinwoodie Green, where the mail coach ſtops and changes horſes. This ſtage is only 5 miles diſtant from the village of Lockerby, where there is a poſt office, 11 miles from Eccleſfechan, and 11 from Moffat, which are alſo ſtages, and have poſt offices. Through the latter village, a diligence paſſes from Dumfries to Edinburgh, 3 times a-week, which renders travelling from this part of the country, to Edinburgh and Glaſgow, very eaſy and convenient. The pariſh is diſtant from Edinburgh about 60 miles, and nearly an equal diſtance from Glaſgow.

Proprietors and Rent.—There are ſix heritors in the pariſh, but

but only one of them resides, viz. Sir William Jardine of Applegarth, Bart. who has the most considerable property in it. The valued rent is 6725 merks. The real rent is estimated at between 2800 l. and 3000 l. Sterling; but the proprietors are not all willing to disclose the amount of their rents.

Population.—The number of inhabitants, in the parish, have greatly decreased within the last 15 years, owing to the proprietors of the lands, having conjoined a number of small farms together, and let them to one tenant. The males and females born in the parish are nearly equal. For the space of 15 years, there has been only eight more males born than females. This, however, cannot be exactly ascertained, for the Seceders seldom enter the names of their children in the register. The following table exhibits the ancient and present state of the population:

POPULATION TABLE of the PARISH of APPLEGARTH.

Population in the year 1777,	943
——— 1755,	897
Increase in 22 years,	46
Population in 1792,	741
Decrease, on the whole, in 37 years,	156
Average of births,	14½
Number of males,	357
——— females,	384
——— Members of the Established Church,	685
——— Relief Congregation,	28
——— Cameronians,	3
——— Antiburghers,	24
——— Burghers,	1
——— Proprietors residing,	1
——— non-residing,	5

Church, &c.—The manse is an old house, built upwards of 60 years ago. The church is situated near the river Annan, and

and was built about 30 years ago. It is large and well built, and ſufficient, at preſent, to contain the whole inhabitants of the pariſh. It has a large *jam*, very commodious for diſpenſing the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, which, in ſome of the neighbouring pariſhes, for want of room in the churches, is diſpenſed in the fields. The ſtipend has been, for upwards of 60 years, 72 l. Sterling, including Communion Elements; but the Lords of Council and Seſſion have lately been pleaſed to grant an augmentation of 4 chalders of victual, 2 of them meal, and 2 of them bear, which will now make the ſtipend 100 guineas a-year, or better. The glebe is very ſmall, only conſiſting of between 5 and 6 acres.

It is generally ſuppoſed, that there have been 2 pariſhes annexed to Applegarth, viz. Sibbaldbie and Dinwoodie. It is not certain, however, whether Dinwoodie was ever a diſtinct pariſh or not. It appears rather to have been a Chapel of Eaſe to Applegarth. Sibbaldbie has been a diſtinct pariſh; and, ſome of the old people, now living, remember to have ſeen the church ſtanding, of which there are ſtill ſome veſtiges. The miniſter of Applegarth was in uſe to officiate occaſionally at Sibbaldbie, The Marquis of Annandale claims the patronage of Sibbaldbie. Sir William Jardine is patron of Applegarth, and claims alſo the patronage of Sibbaldbie.

Schools and Poor.—There are 2 ſchool-houſes lately built in the pariſh, at the expence of the heritors, who have voluntary aſſeſsed themſelves with the payment of 5 l. Sterling annually, to one of the ſchoolmaſters, and 3 l. 6 s. 8 d. to the other. There are about 10 or 12 perſons in the pariſh on the poor's liſt, who occaſionally get a ſmall ſupply from the collections made in the church; and, there is a mortification of 3 l. 6 s. 8 d. granted by the family of Applegarth, which, by the deed of mortification, is to be diſtributed at the ſight, and

by

by the advice of the Kirk-Seſſion, amongſt the poor in the barony of Applegarth, and nine merk land of Sibbaldbie; which is that part of the old pariſh of Sibbaldbie, that belongs to the eſtate of Applegarth.

Fuel and Mills.—The common fuel is peats, the procuring of which occaſions a very great labour for the people, during the whole of ſummer; and, in wet ſeaſons, the inhabitants are greatly diſtreſſed for want of fuel in winter. There are 3 corn mills in the pariſh, a barley and lint mill were lately built on the water of Dryfe, and another lint mill is now building on the water of Annan.

Cattle and produce.—There are only 2 or 3 ſheep farms in the pariſh. The number of ſheep does not exceed 1800 or 2000. There are about 1500 black cattle, 150 horſes, and 60 ploughs. The farmers, in general, are in tolerable good circumſtances; and, from the high prices of black cattle, (the crops alſo being good after liming, and oats, meal and barley, giving a good price,) they are now better able to pay their rents, than they were ſome years ago, though the rents have been raiſed conſiderably. The average price of barley is from 2 s. 6 d. to 3 s., the Wincheſter buſhel; of oats 2 s. or 2 s. 6 d. and oat meal 1 s. 8 d. or 1 s. 9 d. per ſtone. Theſe are the ſtaple commodities by which many of the tenants pay their rents. A conſiderable number of black cattle alſo are reared in the pariſh; and theſe, when about a year and a half old, are ſold for about 2 l. 10 s. or 3 l. each.

Cultivation.—Several of the farmers are now getting into a better mode of managing their farms, by ſummer fallowing, by ſowing turnips, planting cabbages, and other green crops; after which they ſow barley with graſs ſeeds. It is not long

ſince

ſince the ſowing of barley was introduced into the pariſh. Bear, which ſtill moſtly prevails, was univerſally ſown. Few of the farms are incloſed. It would be a very great improvement to this part of the country, and of advantage to the farmers, if their farms were all incloſed, and ſubdivided with dykes, and hedges. The hedges would thrive exceedingly well, as the ſoil, in general, is good, and where they have been planted, they have thriven well.

Miſcellaneous Obſervations.—The farmers and the pariſhioners in general, are laborious and induſtrious, and commonly very healthy. Fevers, or any epidemical diſorders, ſeldom prevail in the pariſh, except the ſmall pox, which carries off ſeveral of the children. Moſt of the country people ſtill entertain ſtrong prejudices againſt inoculation, though not ſo great as formerly; for ſeveral have been lately prevailed on to get their children inoculated, and theſe inſtances have always been attended with remarkable ſucceſs.—Many of the natives live to a good age. There were, ſome time ago, in the church, in one day, three old men, whoſe ages amounted to 270. Several of them live to the age of 80 or 90, but few or none to 100.—There are no villages in the pariſh, nor manufactures of any kind carried on, except by a few weavers, who are chiefly employed by the inhabitants.

NUMBER XVII.

PARISH OF BEITH.

(Counties of Ayr and Renfrew.—Presbytery of Irvine.—Synod of Glasgow and Ayr.)

By the Rev. Mr. DAVID M'CLELLAN.

Situation and Extent.

THIS parish lies within the county of Ayr, and district of Cunningham; excepting 4 farms which belong to Renfrewshire, on the border of which it is situated. It extends about 5 miles in length, from E. to W. and its breadth is about 4. The land rises by a gradual ascent from S. to N. where there is a small ridge of hills, whose summits are elevated, perhaps about 400 feet, above the lowest ground in the parish, or 500 feet above the level of the sea.

Rent, Heritors, Cultivation, &c.—The valued rent, of that part of the parish which lies in Ayrshire, is 6115 l. 14 s. 2 d. Scotch; and that of the 4 farms in Renfrewshire, 163 l. 6 s. 8 d. The real rent is believed to be in some places 6 times, in others, 8 times, and, perhaps in others, owing to their vicinity to the town of Beith, the richness of the soil, or the high cultivation of the lands, even 12 times the valued rent.

There

There are two circumſtances chiefly, which ſerve to account for the high rent of lands in this neighbourhood. The country is populous, and property is greatly ſubdivided. Beith is ſurrounded on all ſides with conſiderable villages and towns, to the number of 12, within as many miles. The ſubdiviſion of property is more remarkable, in this and the neighbouring pariſhes, than perhaps in any other part of Scotland. There are in this pariſh 105 heritors, beſides a conſiderable number of ſmaller proprietors in the village. This circumſtance is ſuppoſed to have much influence upon the cultivation, and of conſequence upon the produce and rent of lands. The ſmall land-holders generally reſide upon their own property; and improvements made by any of them, in the cultivation of their lands, and management of their farms, are more readily adopted by the reſt, than thoſe introduced by perſons who have large eſtates, or carry on farming upon a more extenſive ſcale, becauſe they are evidently more within their reach. The lands in this pariſh are almoſt all arable, and were generally incloſed many years ago. The common practice amongſt farmers is to plough only a third part of the arable ground annually, upon which they raiſe oats or barley; but ſeldom any wheat, peas or beans. Rye-graſs ſeed is frequently ſown, where the ground is rich, or well manured; but very little clover is raiſed, and ſometimes hay is made from the natural graſs.

Cheeſe, Cattle, &c.—The tenants in this pariſh pay their rents chiefly from their dairy. They almoſt univerſally make ſweet milk cheeſe. The method of making this cheeſe was firſt introduced into this country, by a farmer's wife in the pariſh of Dunlop, about the beginning of this century; and from this circumſtance, it has got the name of *Dunlop* cheeſe. It is a commodity which has been riſing in value for a long

time paſt. The preſent price is 7 s. per ſtone, containing 24 lb. Engliſh. About 100 cows are kept for the purpoſe of making cheeſe. The average produce from each cow, beſides what goes to the uſe of the family, is ſuppoſed to be 3 l. 10 s. Sterling per annum; and conſequently, the quantity of cheeſe ſent to the market annually, from this pariſh, ſhould bring to the farmers about 3500 l. *.

Roads and Bridges.—The great road from Glaſgow, by Paiſley, to Irvine, Ayr and Port-Patrick, paſſes through the town of Beith. It is much frequented, eſpecially in ſummer. A ſtage coach, in ſome ſeaſons, runs in that direction from Glaſgow to Ayr, three times a-week. The pariſh roads, in ſeveral places, are not in good repair, owing to the deepneſs of the ſoil, or the ſcarcity of proper materials. The ſtatute labour is paid in money. All the roads are well ſupplied with bridges, wherever they have been found neceſſary. There are no turnpikes in the pariſh.

Eccleſiaſtical State.—The Earl of Eglintoun is Patron. The ſtipend paid to the miniſter, by uſe and wont, (for there is no decreet for it,) is 79 bolls of meal, and 17 l. 12 s. 6 d. in money. The old glebe, upon which a part of the village now ſtands, was exchanged in 1727, by a formal contract between the Earl of Eglintoun, the preſbytery of Irvine, and the incumbent, for a ſmall farm near the town of Beith, conſiſting, as is mentioned in the contract, of 31 acres 3 roods. It would appear, that the preſent church was built ſoon after the reformation. There is a ſtone in the wall, with the date 1593 upon it; and there is a coat of arms, coarſely done, upon the front

* For this information, the writer of this paper is indebted to a gentleman very converſant in country affairs.

front of a gallery, having the date 1596, and marked with the initials of *Robert Montgomery of Giffan*, a younger ſon of the Earl of Eglintoun, and his lady, who was of the family of Loudoun. The church is built in the form of a croſs. In 1754, one of the ailes was lengthened, ſo as to admit of nearly 200 additional ſitters. This was done at the expence of the Kirk Seſſion, with the advice and conſent of the heritors, for the behoof of the poor *.

Population.—About the time of the revolution, or rather earlier, the *Kirk-town of Beith*, as it was then called, is ſaid to have conſiſted only of 5 dwelling houſes, and the miniſter's manſe. Accordingly, the 5 feued houſes are mentioned, as a diſtinct article, in the ceſs books. In the year 1759, there were about 700 examinable perſons in the town, and upwards of 800 in the country part of the pariſh. The return to Dr. Webſter, in 1755, was 2064 ſouls. The number of inhabitants in the country, has continued much the ſame ever ſince; but the population of the town increaſed ſo rapidly, that, in 1788, it contained nearly 1500 examinable perſons. Since that period, however, it has rather decreaſed. From a very accurate enumeration taken lately, with a view to be inſerted in this paper, the population was found to be as follows:

In

* From a Latin inſcription upon a grave-ſtone in the church-yard, it appears, that Mr. WILLIAM MAITLAND was miniſter here, from 1669 to 1681, when he died at the age of 46. It is ſaid that he was one of thoſe who accepted the indulgence. The old people ſpeak of ſome curates who ſucceeded him, but none of them were of any note. The third miniſter of Beith, after the revolution, was Dr. WILLIAM LEECHMAN, late principal of the Univerſity of Glaſgow, in 1736; who, in 1744, was ſucceeded by Dr. JOHN WOTHERSPOON, now Preſident of Princetown College, New Jerſey, to whom the preſent miniſter, ſucceeded in 1758.

	Families.	Males.	Females.	Total.
In the town,	488.	797.	957.	1754.
In the country,	216.	553.	565.	1118.
In the whole parish,	704.	1350.	1522.	2872.
			1350.	
		Majority of females,	172.	

Births annually taken at an average, in periods of 4 years since 1759.

Period 1. from 1759 to 1762, inclusive, -	$57\frac{3}{4}$
—— 2. 3. 4. 1763 — 1774, —— from -	$60\frac{3}{4}$ to $61\frac{3}{4}$
—— 5. —— 1775 — 1779, —— - -	$72\frac{3}{4}$
—— 6. —— 1779 — 1782, —— - -	$87\frac{1}{2}$
—— 7. —— 1783 — 1786, —— - -	$93\frac{3}{4}$
In 1787 and 1788, - - - - -	121
— 1789 and 1790, - - - - -	89

No register of burials is kept in this parish; and therefore, no calculation, to be depended upon, can be made, with regard to the proportion of deaths to births.

Climate, Diseases, &c.—There are several persons, both in the town and country, above 80 years of age, but none so old as 90. The climate does not appear to be very favourable to longevity. Owing to the elevated situation of the country, and its vicinity to the western ocean, we have frequent rains and storms; and the air contains a greater degree of moisture, than in places removed to a considerable distance from the Atlantic. There is frequently a good deal of sickness in the village. The diseases most common are fevers and consumptions: the croup * and small pox sometimes prove very fatal to children. The people, in general, are averse to inoculation. No remarkable instance of longevity is known to have occurred amongst those who have resided in the parish. A native, however, of this place, named *Matthew Tait*, died upon the 19th of

* Or *Cynanche Trachealis*. See the note, p. 273.

of January laſt, in the pariſh of Auchinleck, at the very advanced age of 125 years. According to his own account, he was born at the farm of Willieyards, but left the pariſh when young, and inliſted in the army. He ſerved as a private ſoldier, at the taking of Gibraltar by the Britiſh in 1704. His name is not to be found in our regiſter; but it is known, that there was a family of the name of Tait, at Willieyards, more than a century ago, and ſome of their relations ſtill live in the pariſh.

Trade and Manufactures.—About the time of the union of the two kingdoms, a trade in linen cloth was introduced into this place, which became ſo conſiderable, that the Beith markets were frequented by merchants from the neighbouring towns every week. Many houſes, ſoon after this, were built on the old glebe, upon tack rights granted by the miniſter for half a merk Scotch, of rent per fall; and, when the Glebe was afterwards exchanged, the Earl of Eglintoun became bound to grant feu rights to the holders of theſe tack rights, upon equitable conditions, particularly ſpecified. About the year 1730, the linen buſineſs, which had greatly declined, was ſucceeded by a conſiderable trade in linen yarn. The Beith merchants purchaſed the yarn made in the country around, and ſold it to the Paiſley and Glaſgow manufacturers. This trade, when carried to its greateſt extent, about the year 1760, is ſuppoſed to have amounted to 16000 l. Sterling yearly; and though it has long been upon the decline, linen yarn is ſtill a conſiderable article of merchandiſe. The demand for this commodity encouraged the farmers to raiſe great quantities of flax. About 60 hhds. of flax ſeed were ſold in this town annually. From 1777 to 1789, the manufacture of ſilk gauze was carried on to a great extent in this place, particularly

particularly by the Messrs. Fultons of Paisley. They employed at one time 270 looms. Considerable quantities were also, at the same time, manufactured by persons in the employment of other companies. This business has also greatly failed.

Present state of Trade and Manufactures in the parish of Beith.

Number of Extensive Works.	
Candle works,	2
Licensed distillers,	3
Tobacco Manufacturing Company,	1
Tan-work,	1
Malt work,	1
Corn mills,	4
Lint mills,	5
Wauk mill,	1
	18

Number of Artificers, &c.	
Masons,	22
Housecarpenters,	21
Sadlers,	2
Shoemakers,	29
Smiths,	15
Coopers,	4
Bakers,	4
Taylors,	13
Flax dressers,	6
Watchmaker,	1
Barbers,	2
Butchers,	6
Hatter,	1
	126

Number of Persons employed	
in spinning cotton,	50
in making thread,	63
— Weaving muslin,	70
— — —— silk gauze,	44
— ——— country work,	32
In all,	259

Besides many females employed in sewing and tambouring muslin.

Number of Merchants, &c.	
Cloth merchants,	9
Grocers,	18
Yarn merchants,	11
Bookseller *,	1
	39

Number of Persons in other Professions or situations of Life.	
Bankers ‡,	2
Surgeons,	2
Druggist,	1
Justices of the Peace §,	2
Keepers of licensed public houses,	17
Carriers and carters,	24
Dyke builders,	56
Day labourers,	20
	124

We

* *This gentleman's shop generally contains about* 3000 *volumes.*

‡ *These gentlemen are agents for the Paisley bank.*

§ *A monthly court is held in the town of Beith.*

We have 3 principal fairs annually, and a weekly market upon Friday. There is often a fine ſhew of horſes in the Beith markets, eſpecially on the 30th of Auguſt, *St. Tennant's day*, (ſuppoſed to be a corruption for *St. Anthony's day*,) and on ſeveral Fridays in the beginning of ſpring. It is obvious from the above ſtatement, that the population of the town of Beith increaſed with its trade; and that the preſent decreaſe in the number of its inhabitants, is owing chiefly to the decline of the ſilk manufacture, and to the extenſive cotton works erected in the neighbourhood, particularly in the pariſh of Lochwinnoch, and at the town of Johnſtone, in the pariſh of Paiſley.

Poor.—The funds for ſupporting the poor are the weekly collections at the church door; the hire of the mortcloths; the rent of the poor's aile, the ſeats of which are let yearly by roup; the rent of a ſmall farm, purchaſed with the poor's money in 1695, and a ſmall proportion of the dues of proclamation of marriages. The average amount of theſe funds, from Whitſunday annually, appears, by the regiſter, to be as follows:

	From 1757 to 1770.	From 1770 to 1780	From 1780 to 1790	Total of each in 34 years.
Collections,	L. 28 11 0	L. 36 5 8	L. 41 1 4½	L. 105 18 0½
Mortcloths,	6 6 10¼	5 16 5¼	8 15 4½	20 18 8
Seat rents,	8 3 0¼	11 9 6	15 2 10	35 15 4¼
Farm rent,	6 0 9	9 10 0	15 0 0	30 10 9
Total funds in theſe periods.	L. 49 1 7½	L. 63 1 7¼	L. 79 19 7 *	L. 193 2 9¾

The collection laſt year amounted to upwards of 45 l. and it is ſtill upon the increaſe, though we have various diſſenters,

* *The poor's ſhare of the dues for proclamation of marriages, at an average, for the laſt* 10 *years, is* 1 *l.* 12 *s.* 9 *d. annually.*

and though the population of the town has begun to decline. Besides the distributions, which these funds enable the Session to make to the poor, they sometimes receive a temporary assistance from occasional charities *.

Charitable Societies.—There are three charitable societies in Beith; two of those commenced in 1772. One of them has 220 l. of stock and the other 370 l. The third commenced in 1784, and its funds amount to 300 l. The advantage of these institutions has already been sensibly felt, by those of the poor who are entitled to their charity. The funds of these socities, are deposited in the public banks for security. In 1782 and 1783, the funds of the two first mentioned societies, together with 40 l. furnished by the Kirk Session, were employed under the direction of a Committee, in purchasing grain and meal for the use of the inhabitants. The meal was sold to the inhabitants in general, at the market price; but to the members of the societies, and to the poor ½d. cheaper per peck, by proper persons appointed to this office, who received a small allowance for their trouble. From the 28th of October 1782, to the 14th of September 1783, above 1000 bolls were sold in this manner. As the object was to secure plenty, a premium of 6 d. per boll was given for 230 bolls of the above quantity, which had the desired effect.

Since charitable societies are evidently of great utility to the poor, it is a pity they should labour under any disadvantages, tending to check the ardour of that benevolence, to which they owe their existence. They certainly deserve every encouragement from the friends of mankind, and are even

* A committee of heritors annually examine the accounts of the poor's money, and give a discharge to the treasurer.

even entitled to the countenance of government, and the protection of law. It would doubtleſs ſerve the cauſe of humanity much, to confer upon them ſuch privileges, as might enable them more fully to carry into effect the laudable purpoſes of their inſtitution; and to put them under proper regulations, ſanctioned by an act of the legiſlature in their favour; declaring amongſt other things, that ſuch aſſociations are legal, and their rules, with regard to their own members, capable of being enforced by law:—that they have a right to make ſuch bye-laws as ſhall not contradict any ſtatute law of the realm, or the original rules of their aſſociation:—that their articles of agreement muſt be regiſtered in the ſheriff court books of the county to which they belong;—that they ſhall lodge their caſh with ſome banking company for ſecurity: that they ſhall be exempted from ſtamp duties on bills and receipts, in regard that their funds belong to the poor: that it ſhall be as competent for them, as for individuals, to purchaſe and diſpoſe of property in lands or houſes; and that their capital ſhall not be allowed to accumulate above a certain ſum, or beyond a certain number of years. Such privileges and regulations as theſe, confirmed by legal authority, it is apprehended, would encourage the formation of ſuch ſocieties, and thereby great relief would be afforded to the deſerving poor;—any deficiency of the ordinary charitable funds would be made up, and the neceſſity of poor's rates prevented; which muſt always be an object of importance to the nation; and with ſuch views theſe remarks are ſubmitted to the conſideration of the public.

Vagrant Poor.—The great number of ſtranger poor, who wander through the country, has long been complained of, not only as a burthen, but as a nuiſance; and to encourage them, is to encourage idleneſs, theft, and debauchery. In 1786, a vigorous attempt was made to prevent them from begging

in this pariſh. The pariſhioners, in general, ſubſcribed a paper, binding themſelves neither to lodge vagrant beggars, nor give them alms. Several of the inhabitants were appointed to act as conſtables, in apprehending and carrying them out of the pariſh; any expences neceſſary for this purpoſe were to be paid by the heritors. At the ſame time, the poor of this place were furniſhed with certificates, which authoriſed them to beg within the pariſh. The good conſequences of theſe meaſures were, for ſome time, remarkable. Such regulations, perhaps, might not be ſo ſuitable for large towns; but, were they generally adopted in country pariſhes, they would, in all probability, have the moſt ſalutary effects. Vagrants would be effectually excluded; the charity of every pariſh would be beſtowed upon its own poor, and there would be leſs occaſion for ſtents and ſuch legal methods of raiſing ſupplies for the poor, as are always burthenſome to the public, and frequently prove the occaſion of cruelty and additional diſtreſs, to thoſe objects of ſympathy they are intended to relieve.

School.—In the pariſh ſchool, the following branches are taught: Latin, Greek, French, Engliſh, Writing, Arithmetic, Book-keeping, and the practical branches of the Mathematics. The number of ſcholars, for ſome years paſt, has been from 60 to 90. The ſchoolmaſter's ſalary is 11 l. Sterling, ſubject to the deduction of 3 l. to be divided equally among the teachers of three ſmall ſchools in the country, who are choſen by the people in the neighbourhood, and are entitled to this encouragement upon their keeping ſchool, for 4 months in the year. There are alſo two private ſchools in the town which are well attended.

Diſſenters.

Diſſenters.—There are two diſſenting meetings in the town of Beith: One of them, which is attended by that claſs of Seceders, called *Antiburghers*, commenced above 30 years ago. The firſt miniſter ordained to this charge ſoon after renounced his connection with that ſociety, and embraced the communion of the Eſtabliſhed Church. He publiſhed at Edinburgh in 1764, the reaſons which induced him to this meaſure, under the title of *A farewel Addreſs to the Aſſociate Congregation of Beith, by John Laidly, A. M.* It muſt be mentioned to the honour of this congregation, that they co-operate, as far as their weekly collections can allow them, with the Eſtabliſhed Church, in ſupporting the poor of the pariſh. They contribute for this purpoſe at the rate of about 71. annually, which is diſtributed jointly with the pariſh funds formerly mentioned;—an example worthy to be imitated by all diſſenters. The other diſſenting meeting is connected with the ſociety, who are called Relief. It commenced about 9 years ago.

Antiquities.—Before the reformation, there were 2 chapels for public worſhip in this pariſh; one where the preſent church now ſtands, (whereof a ſmall fragment of the wall is ſtill to be ſeen,) and the other upon the lands of Treehorn, one end of which remains entire. This chapel, with two acres of land adjoining to it, belonged to the monaſtery of Kilwinning, as appears from a charter under the great ſeal, in the poſſeſſion of the proprietor, dated in the year 1594 *.

There were formerly ſeveral caſtles, or ſquare towers in the pariſh. All of them have been razed to the foundation but one, which forms at preſent a ſtately ruin. It was antiently the ſeat of the Montgomeries of Giffan.

Lake

* "*Quemadmodum tota et prædicta capella de Trearne, et duæ acræ terrarum adjacen*t
"*cum ſuis pertinentibus perprius monaſterio de Kilwinning, tanquam pars patrimonii, per-*
"*tinuerunt.*"

Lake and Fiſh.—*Kilbirnie Loch*, which lies at the weſt end of this pariſh, is ſomething more than a mile long, and about half a mile broad. It contains trouts, pikes, perches, &c. and is frequented in hard winters by many aquatic birds, ſuch as ducks, geeſe, ſwans, &c.

Fuel, Minerals, &c.—Both peats and coals are uſed for fuel, but chiefly the latter. Peats are always uſed in drying corn, and for the purpoſes of the dairy. The extent of moſs is very inconſiderable. Coals are found in many parts of the pariſh, but have never been wrought with great ſucceſs. We are plentifully ſupplied with that uſeful commodity, from the neighbouring pariſhes of Dalry, Lochwinnoch, and Kilbirnie: and this appears to be the principal reaſon, why proper efforts have not been made, to turn our own coal to greater advantage. We have abundance of whin ſtone, and free ſtone is found very frequently, but of an inferior quality. There is, however, a remarkable ſpecies of free ſtone near the weſt end of this pariſh. It lies in horizontal *laminæ*, or flakes, to a conſiderable depth, and theſe are from 2 to 6 inches thick, and from 3 to 4 or 5 feet ſquare. It does not receive the ſame poliſh as other freeſtone, but is of a very firm contexture, and greatly valued on account of its ſtrength. It is uſed chiefly for pavements, and for bridges over ſmall rivulets. It bears the weight of the heavieſt carriages. The limeſtone in this pariſh is inexhauſtible: beſides the great quantities annually burnt by the farmers upon their own lands, for manure, there are 2 public lime-works, which have a regular and extenſive ſale. Several beds of ſtone marle have been lately diſcovered, and many rich veins of iron ſtone.

Petrifactions.—There are various ſpecimens of figured ſtones, and upon ſome of them, the impreſſions are exceeding-

ly

ly beautiful. The lime ſtone abounds with petrifactions of ſhells, *entrochi* and other marine productions; the *exuviæ* of the ancient ocean. In the lands of Robert Montgomery Eſq, of Bogſtown, ſome years ago, ſilicious petrifactions were diſcovered, ſimilar to thoſe found in calcareous ſubſtances; the ſhells poſſeſſing the ſpecific qualities of the flint in which they were incorporated. Theſe curious and uncommon productions of nature were probably the firſt of the kind diſcovered in this part of the world; at leaſt they were the firſt that ſome of the ableſt chemiſts in this country had ſeen. Silicious petrifactions have been ſince found both in England and Scotland, but very rarely.

Propoſed Improvements.—The cultivation of trees is much neglected in this country. Excepting the *policies*, or pleaſure grounds, around a few country ſeats, there is very little growing wood in this neighbourhood, though there are few places where it is more neceſſary. Were proprietors to plant a ſmall proportion of their land, it would certainly prove of great advantage to the ſoil, as well as afford a ſhelter for cattle, in ſo expoſed a ſituation.

Were a navigable canal carried acroſs the country, from the Clyde below Paiſley, to the ſea at Irvine or Saltcoats, it would be of eſſential ſervice to this part of the kingdom, and to the public in general. The diſtance is upwards of 20 miles. Nature ſeems to point out the line of communication, through a narrow ſtrath, running in that direction moſt of the way. In the middle of this ſtrath ſtands the loch of Kilbirnie, about an equal diſtance from each end of the propoſed canal, and it occupies alſo nearly the higheſt ground between them. A ſtream runs from the north end of this loch into the Clyde below Paiſley, and the water of Garnock, running

in

in an oppoſite direction, paſſes by the other end of it, and empties itſelf into the ſea at Irvine. The fall, from the north end of Kilbirnie Loch to Clyde, is calculated to be about 95 feet, and the declivity towards the ſea can not be much more. Were this plan put in execution, beſides ſerving many other commercial purpoſes, it would lay open immenſe treaſures of coal, lime and iron ſtone. But ſhould this be thought too expenſive an undertaking, a canal of only half the propoſed length, joining Kilbirnie loch, either to the Clyde or to the ſea, would ſtill be an object of great importance. *Conſidering the preſent high price and ſcarcity of* COALS, *any propoſal tending to enable proprietors of coals, at a diſtance from populous cities, to carry them with advantage to market at home or abroad, deſerves their regard.* And any improvements ſuggeſted with a view to ſecure plenty, or to leſſen the price of a commodity ſo uſeful and neceſſary, has a claim to the public attention.

Whatever reaſon there might be, to impoſe a ſervitude upon the farmers in former times, for encouraging the erection of corn mills, *thirlage* is at preſent juſtly conſidered, not only in many inſtances to be inconvenient, but in general burthenſome. The *multure* and other perquiſites paid to the miller, and his ſervants, amount in ſome places to the $\frac{1}{12}$ or $\frac{1}{11}$, or even $\frac{1}{10}$ of the produce. This is a heavy tax upon agriculture, and it lays the tenant under temptation to carry part of his grain elſewhere, to the prejudice of the miller, as often as he can avoid detection. It would be of advantage, therefore, both to the holders of land, and the proprietors of mills, in this and other pariſhes, were the latter obliged to ſell, and the former to buy up this ſervitude at a moderate value.

NUMBER XVIII.

PARISH OF GUTHRIE.

(*County of Angus.—Preſbytery of Arbroath.—Synod of Angus and Mearns.*)

By the Rev. Mr. WILLIAM MILLIGAN, *Miniſter of* KIRKDEN *.

Situation, Surface, Soil, and Extent.

THE pariſh of Guthrie is divided into two parts, one of which is 6 miles diſtant from the other, and lies directly ſouth from it. The inhabitants of the ſouthern part, in going to their own pariſh church, paſs through the pariſhes of Dunnichen, Kirkden, and Reſcobie. This part is called *Kirkbuddo*, where it is ſaid there was once a chapel for religious worſhip. The moor of Montrithmont, nearly a plain, conſiſting of about 5000 acres, which was a common, probably ever ſince it was covered by the ſea, has been divided among

* This account was drawn up by Mr. Milligan, at the deſire of Mr. THOMAS CRAIG, miniſter of Guthrie, who has been ſettled in that diſtrict for 39 years; but, being prevented by indiſpoſition, from drawing up the account himſelf, requeſted Mr. Milligan to take the trouble of doing it.

the proprietors of the ſurrounding pariſhes of Kirkden, Kinnell, Fernel, &c. who are encloſing and planting their ſeveral proportions. About 370 acres of this moor have fallen to the ſhare of the pariſh of Guthrie. Almoſt the whole northern part of the pariſh ſinks gently to the ſouth and eaſt, from the top, near to the north weſt end of it, called the *Hill of Guthrie*, the higheſt part of which is probably not much more than 500 feet above the level of the ſea. There is no hill in the ſouthern part of the pariſh, but the loweſt ground in it is probably near 700 feet higher than the ſea. Moſt of the pariſh, eſpecially the ſouthern part, is too wet. The annexed table ſtates accurately, the extent and kinds of land in the ſouthern part of the pariſh, being the contents of a map from a late menſuration. The northern part is taken from the proportions of oats, barley, peaſe, &c. ſown by the different farmers according to their own reports, and cannot be ſuppoſed ſo accurate. The extent of it is, probably, rather more, than is ſtated in the table.

Extent of the Pariſh.

Number of Acres, &c.	North part. A.	R.	F.	South part. A.	R	F.	Total. A.	R.	F.
In paſture,	51	0	0	100	2	26	151	2	26
Arable,	1138	0	0	682	1	7	1820	1	7
In moor,	370	0	0	186	3	11	556	3	11
Under moſs,	-		-	85	2	39	85	2	39
——— water,	-		-	2	0	36	2	0	36
——— wood,	15	0	1	49	1	1	64	1	2
Groſs contents,	1574	0	1	1107	0	0	2681	0	1

Crops in 1791.

Number of acres under barley.	244
——— oats,	334
——— peaſe,	60
——— flax,	19
——— turnips,	31
Carried over,	688

Brought

Brought over,	688
Number of acres under potatoes, - - - -	12
——————— Graſs, - - - -	372
——————— fallow, - - - -	66
Total,	1138

Agriculture and Cattle, &c.—There is a regular rotation of crops, in the ſouthern, as well as in the northern part of the pariſh, and probably about the ſame proportion of oats, barley, peaſe, &c.; but it is divided into ſuch ſmall parts, that it was impoſſible to ſtate them accurately. There are ſix farms in the ſouthern part, viz. one of 169 acres; one of 65; one of 45; one of 47; one of 39; and one of 33 acres, all arable: and the reſt of the eſtate of Kirkbuddo is divided into no leſs than 25 ſmall farms. The number of cattle and horſes are in proportion to the graſs, and the lands in cultivation. There are not above 3 or 4 ſaddle horſes, and ſcarcely any ſheep or hogs.

Rent and Proprietors.—The average price of land, lately let in the northern part, is about 15 s. and in the ſouthern part, 10 s the acre. The valued rent of the pariſh is 1500 l. Scotch, and the real rent above 1000 l. Sterling. The pariſh is divided among 3 proprietors, only one of whom, (Guthrie of that ilk,) reſides in it about 7 months of the year.

Church, School and Poor.—The kirk and ſchool are ſituated in the northern part of the pariſh. The manſe is old and ruinous. The ſtipend, including 2 chalders of meal, at the ordinary converſion, is below 50 l. Sterling. The glebe is a legal one. The church is an elegant building for ſuch a country pariſh. The walls, or at leaſt a part of them, are ſaid to be about 300 years old, and they may ſtand for 1000

years to come, Mr. Guthrie of Guthrie is patron *. The ſchool-maſter is well qualified for his office. The ſalary, including kirk dues, may be between 11 l. and 12 l. Sterling. The ſchool fees are the ſame as thoſe of Kirkden. The ſcholars are numerous, but the ſouthern part of the pariſh can reap no advantage from the ſchool. The weekly collections, and the intereſt of a ſmall ſum of money, are found ſufficient for the maintenance of the poor, of which there are at preſent only two ſupported by the public funds, and two or three who receive ſmall ſums occaſionally.

Population.—The people, almoſt without exception, are ſober, induſtrious and contented; and a few excepted, all belong to the Eſtabliſhed Church. The return to Dr. Webſter, in 1755, was 584 ſouls. By a particular enumeration, taken in 1792, the number, ages and profeſſions of the inhabitants, appeared to be as follows:

Number

* The pariſh was erected into a provoſtry by one of his predeceſſors, as appears by the following citation from an old author, who had written an account of the different dioceſes of Scotland.

" Guthrie, in the ſhire of Angus or Forfar, was a collegiate church, founded " by Sir David Guthrie of that ilk, who was Lord High Treaſurer in the reign " of King James the III. for a provoſt and three prebendaries, the number of " which was afterwards increaſed by Sir Alexander Guthrie of that ilk, his ſon " and heir, who was ſlain at the battle of Floudon, in the year 1513." Henry Guthrie, biſhop of Dunkeld, was deſcended of a younger ſon of this ancient family. Families, like individuals, often riſe to ſtrength and notice, and decline again into weakneſs and obſcurity, ſometimes ſuddenly and ſometimes more ſlowly. This old family ſeems not yet the worſe of age. John Guthrie, Eſq; of that ilk, poſſeſſes a fine eſtate in the ſhire of Angus, though his predeceſſors were advanced to the higheſt honours, as far back as the reign of James the III.

Number of perſons	In the northern part.		In the ſouthern.		Total.
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	
Under 10 years of age,	42	43	35	28	148
Between 10 & 20 —	50	36	25	30	141
—— 20 & 50 —	73	71	31	39	214
—— 50 & 70 —	20	12	15	12	59
—— 70 & 92 —	3	4	2		9
	188	166	108	109	
	108			166	
Total of males,	296	- -	and females,	275	571
Hence there is a decreaſe within theſe 40 years of				-	13

Number of Families, -	76	Number of Merchants, -	2
—— Farmers, -	14	—— Brewers, -	1
—— Weavers, -	17	—— Retailers of liquors,	2
—— Taylors, -	5	—— Male ſervants, -	50
—— Shoemakers, -	2	—— Female ſervants, -	33
—— Smiths, -	1	—— Tradeſmen's ſervants,	11
—— Coopers, -	1	—— Apprentices, -	2
—— Wrights, -	2		

Liſt of Births, &c. for the laſt 10 years.

			Baptiſms.	Marriages.	Burials.
In the year	1782	there were	17	3	6
	1783		12	3	9
	1784		15	2	10
	1785		14	2	11
	1786		9	1	10
	1787		16	3	8
	1788		17	2	10
	1789		14	6	4
	1790		13	4	9
	1791		12	6	20
Total in 10 years,			139	32	97
Average,			13 9-10	3 3-10	9 7-10

Fuel.—The northern part of the pariſh is ſupplied with coals from Arbroath, and the ſouthern part with peats from

a moſs, part of which is in the pariſh. Coals are uſually from 6 s. to 6 s. 8 d.; but this year they have been 7 s. at the loweſt, and for 4 or 5 months paſt 8 s. the cart load, of 70 ſtone Amſterdam weight.

Antiquities.—In the ſouthern part of the pariſh of Guthrie, there are upwards of 15 acres of moor, which are part of a Roman camp. The reſt of it is in the pariſh of Inverarity. The *vallum* and *foſſa* are yet very diſtinct, and of a conſiderable height and depth. The caſtle of Guthrie, ſuppoſed to have been built by Sir Alexander Guthrie, who was ſlain at Floudon, is a ſtrong building, and is ſtill entire. The walls are about 60 feet high, and 10 feet thick. It has a prodigious maſſive iron door. This caſtle and its door are at once a monument of the ancient grandeur of the family of Guthrie, and of the rudeneſs and barbarity of thoſe times, when men could not live ſecure, but in ſuch ſtrong towers. The garden of Guthrie is a mixture of ancient and modern taſte; it has ſeveral beautiful box hedges cut in various figures, and in perfect preſervation, though very ancient. Some ſuppoſe the garden to be nearly as old as the caſtle.

NUMBER XIX.

United PARISHES of GLENORCHAY and INISHAIL.

(*Preſbytery of Lorn.—Synod and County of Argyll.*)

By the Rev. JOSEPH MACINTYRE, D. D.

Erection and Name.

THE pariſhes of Glenorchay and Iniſhail were conjoined into one cure, in the year 1618. By a committee of parliament, met at Inveraray, in the year 1650, theſe pariſhes were disjoined, on account of their great extent, and continued ſeparate till the reſtoration; when, by the memorable *Reſciſſory Act*, they were again united, and have continued ſince under the paſtoral charge of the ſame incumbent.

The pariſh of Glenorchay derives its name, from the vale where the church is built. It was formery called *Clachan Dyſart*, a Celtic word, ſignifying, "The Temple of the Higheſt." The place, where the pariſh church ſtands, was probably the ſite of *the Clachan*, or "Circle of ſtones," of the Druids. *Dyſart* properly means *The Higheſt God*. The founders of a church, deſigned

designed for a more enlightened worship, in order to induce the Pagan inhabitants to attend the institutions of revealed religion, were naturally led to make choice of a situation, the more revered by them, as being the place where they had formerly been accustomed to perform their rites of devotion*. *Inishail*, or *Beautiful Isle*, is so named, from that green and picturesque island in Lochow, once the site of a small nunnery of the *Cistertian* order; and where, in a ruinous chapel of that religious house, public worship was alternately performed, till the year 1736. A church, more commodious for the parish, was then built on the south side of the lake, opposite to Inishail.

Extent and Situation.—The length of the united parishes, from E. to W. is above 24 measured miles. The breadth is various and unequal. They are situated on the borders of the county of Perth, near the village of Clifton, and inn of Tayndrom, one of the highest inhabited situations in North Britain. Here, a small rivulet marks the division of the counties of Argyll and Perth; part of which runs eastward into Loch Tay, and falls into the German sea; and part runs westward into Lochow, and discharges itself, at *Bunaw*, into an Arm of the Atlantic ocean. The church of Glenorchay is 15 miles N. E. from Inveraray, the chief town of the shire, and the seat of the courts of justice; and is nearly at an equal distance S. E. from Bunaw*.

Surface

* Cordiner's Antiquities.

* At this place there is a considerable salmon fishing and iron foundery; and a quay is built on a secure and well sheltered bay for vessels of small burden which ply occasionally, to Liverpool, Whitehaven, Ulverston, and other places, loaded with pig-iron, tanner's bark, kelp and salmon; and import in return, iron ore, meal, coals, tanned leather, stone-ware, and other articles of commerce.

Surface and Soil.—Excepting the vale of Glenorchay, which forms a beautiful plain of more than 3 miles in length, and half a mile in breadth, the plains of Auch, of Auchallader, and part of the lands of Hayfield, the country excluſively is mountainous and hilly. The river *Urchay* winds in a gentle current through the vale, dividing it into two equal parts. On each ſide of the river, the ſoil is a mixture of light earth and ſand; and on the ſides of Lochow, as far as the pariſh extends, it is generally a deeper earth and richer loam, on beds of till or gravel. The glebe, on which the church and manſe are built, is a beautiful oblong iſle, formed by the river Urchay. It is in the centre of the valley and above a mile in circumference, and every where bordered with natural terraces and ſhelving banks; and fringed with coppice and various kinds of trees, to the very edge of the river.

Produce and Cultivation.—The crops produced, on theſe lands, are the blainſley, the early white, and the ſmall grey oats; Scotch bear, potatoes, a few field turnips, ſome artificial, and much natural, as well as meadow graſſes. The ordinary return from oats is from 3 to 4 ſeeds; of barley, from 5 to 7, and from the boll of potatoes, from 12 to 20. The annual change of the different ſeeds is found to be of great advantage, as the ſame ſeed, ſown ſucceſſively for years, in the ſame ſoil, becomes gradually ſmall and unproductive. It is cuſtomary, yearly, to import quantities of ſeed oats from the high grounds near the Kirk of Shotts, and from ſeveral parts of Perthſhire. Culinary plants are coming more and more into general uſe in this country: Some years ago it required the influence of the landlord; and in ſome places, an expreſs ſtipulation in the leaſe, before the common people could be got to plant greens, or fence a garden.

Potatoes.—No where are potatoes cultivated with more care or thrive better. They are mostly planted in drills, and hoed by the plough. The largest are always selected for seed. The kinds chiefly used, are those called here, *the London Lady*, a prolific and sweet potatoe; the *long white*, the *dun*, the *wise*, the *early red*, and the *purple*. From all of them, a starch is commonly manufactured by a simple process, for family use. Some distill a fiery and harsh spirit from potatoes; and at times, *bread jelly*, and a very *bad cheese*, are formed of this valuable root, when combined with other substances of nutrition. For nine months of the year, potatoes make a great part of the food of the middling and lower ranks of people; and it may be said, with truth, that, till the general introduction of potatoes into this country, so little adapted, from soil and climate, to the growth of other grain, the poor and lower classes pined away, nearly the half of their time, in want and hunger. It is now found, that, by keeping the potatoes in a cool place during the summer months, and checking the vegetation by frequent turning and stirring, they may be preserved sweet and sound, from one end of the year to the other; and thus, become a wholesome and cheap diet to the poor, and even, occasionally, add to the viands of the opulent in every season.

Sheep and Black Cattle—The hills and muirs, which, some years ago, were covered with heath and coarse herbage, are, since the introduction of large flocks of sheep into the country, gradually getting a richer sward and a greener hue, and afford excellent pasture. Every where they abound, with springs and rivulets of pure and salubrious water. Numerous flocks of large and heavy sheep, now pasture almost the whole year, on these mountains and wilds, where, formerly,

were

were to be found, and only for the ſummer months, a few light ſheep and goats, ſmall hill horſes, as they were called, and ſome herds of black cattle. Then, it was believed, that no domeſtic animal could ſtand the ſeverities of the winter on the high and ſtormy grounds: even the goats and ſheep were regularly houſed and fed in pens, during the rigour of the ſeaſon. The conſequence was often fatal. When the provender was conſumed before the genial return of ſpring, cattle of all kinds periſhed in numbers for want of ſuſtenance *. There may be about 20,000 ſheep in the pariſh. A few of the Cheviot breed have been lately introduced into Glenorchay; and the Earl of Breadalbane, ever anxious to promote the intereſt of his country, and the good of the people, deſigns, it is ſaid, to ſend ſome more of the ſame kind, to the pariſh, for trial. Black cattle have been, for years paſt, decreaſing in number, but improving in kind. Two bulls, reared in the pariſh, were lately ſold, the one at 19 l. the other at 20 l. Sterling. Horſes, both for draught and ſaddle, are brought, occaſionally, at high prices, from the ſouth of Scotland, and other places noted for the beſt kinds of both.

Wood.—The higher parts of the pariſh abounded once, with foreſts of the largeſt and beſt pines; but theſe were cut down, about 60 years ago, by a company of adventurers from Ireland, with little benefit to themſelves, and leſs to the noble proprietor of the country. There are ſtill ſome tracts of natural firs in Glenorchay: a good deal of oak, intermixed with aſh, birch, and aller. On the ſides of Lochow, eſpecially

* A worthy gentleman, ſtill alive in this pariſh, was preſent at the ſale of 510 hides of black cattle, of all ages; which were the property of *one laird*, and loſt in one ſeaſon, by mere want. This was in the year 1744. The hides ſold for 50 l. to a Glaſgow tanner.

at Hayfield, various kinds of wood; the larch, the beech, the horſe cheſnut, the mountain aſh, the lime and the plane, are planted with taſte, and grow with luxuriance and beauty. The climate is not favourable for orchards.

Exports and Imports.—The exports from the country are cattle, wool, woollen yarn, tartans, plaiding and ruſſet. The imports are, about 1000 bolls of meal, merchant goods and caſh. Excluſive of what is retailed by hawkers, there is ſold, yearly, from one ſtationary ſhop in the pariſh, to the value of 60 l. Sterling, of ſnuff and tobacco. This is an expenditure that merits reprehenſion. Let the men, however, continue to do in this as they chooſe, but far be it from the fair and reſpectable females of this vale, to diſfigure their features, and to deſtroy their powers of ſong and ſweet cadence, by a habit ſo repugnant to every thing engaging and cleanly in woman. There is one licenſed diſtillery in the pariſh; the effect of which is the deſtruction of great quantities of grain, that, in place of being converted into wholeſome bread, produces only a deleterious ſpirit, ruinous to health, to induſtry, and to morals. If no ſpirits were diſtilled in the county, the meal imported would be a trifle. At an average, there is an annual importation of 40 thouſand bolls into the ſhire.

Population and Longevity.—As no exact public regiſters were kept, the ancient ſtate of the population of the pariſh cannot be aſcertained with preciſion; but, it is the general belief, that the population is not materially different from what it was about 40 years ago. This conjecture is confirmed by the only inveſtigation of the fact, that can now be made. At preſent, (1792,) the total number is 1669. The return to Dr. Webſter in 1755 was 1654, the difference is therefore only 15. Of theſe there are of males, 783, of females, 886.

In

In this account, the inhabitants of Lorn, Furnace and Fanans are not included. Though the people, in general, attain to an advanced age, there are no late inſtances of extraordinary longevity in the pariſh. A circumſtance happened a few years ago, which, it is believed, occurs but ſeldom any where. At a baptiſm in the pariſh, there were preſent, the child's *father* and *mother*, *grandfather* and *grandmother*, *great-grandfather* and *great-grandmother*; and the laſt pair are ſtill ſo vigorous and healthy, as to make it probable, they may ſee the fifth generation of their family. They are all in the lower claſs of peaſantry, contented with their lot, and chearful in their temper.

Diſeaſes.—Colds and rheumatic diſorders are the moſt prevalent diſeaſes in the pariſh. Before inoculation was introduced, the ſmall pox, in its viſitations, proved very fatal. Then, the regimen was literally hot. At whatever ſeaſon the infection appeared, great fires were kept burning in the rooms, or rather ſtoves, where often 2 or 3 wretched children lay gaſping, under a weight of cloaths, in one bed. Every particle of freſh air was excluded with the utmoſt care; and whiſky and ſaffron, and every thing heating, were adminiſtered with an unſparing hand. The conſequence was ſuch as might be expected. Numbers were hurried into an untimely grave; and of thoſe that eſcaped with life, the loſs of an eye, ſometimes of both, with other ravages of the diſorder, often marked a treatment ſo unnatural and ſo deſtructive. Eighteen years ago, a herd boy, a native of this pariſh, ran away from a farm in another country, where the meaſles made their appearance. He did not, however, eſcape the enemy he dreaded. He came to the pariſh ſchool, and within the fifth day, the runaway, with 51 of the ſcholars, were laid up with the

the diſtemper. It ſpread over the country in a ſhort time; but contagious as it was, it was not mortal.

Mountains, &c *.—There are many hills of different elevations and forms in the pariſh. Among theſe, Beindoran, Beinlaoi, and Cruachan, ſoar pre-eminently high. The laſt riſes in a gentle ſlope from the ſea, and the Lake of Aw; and by the meaſurement of the late Colonel Watſon, with a quadrant, its perpendicular height is ſaid to be 1130 yards above the level of the ſea. The circumference of the mountain, at the baſe, is above 20 meaſured miles. Cruachan is the weather gauge of the people within view of its lofty ſummit. Before the ſtorm, "the ſpirit of the mountain ſhrieks," and its head and ſides are enveloped in clouds. On the ſummit of this mountain, was that fatal ſpring, from which, according to the tradition of our fathers, iſſued forth the beautiful and extenſive lake of Aw ‡.

Beindoran,

* Elevation of various Mountains above the level of the Sea.

	Feet.
Hartfield Hill, near Moffat,	2282
Tintock, in Lanarkſhire,	1644
Beinmore, in Breadalbane, from its baſe,	2064
Bein Lawers, in Breadalbane, above Lochtay,	3588
Ben nevis, in Lochaber,	4273
Benlomond, above the Lake,	3240
Skiddaw, in Cumberland,	4466
Snowdon, in Wales,	3566
Mount Blanc, in the Alps,	15,662
Mount Ætna,	10,954
Chimborazzo, South America,	20,460
Teneriffe,	15,396
Hecla in Iceland.	4,903

N. B. 1760 yards make a mile.

‡ "Bera the aged, dwelt in the cave of the rock. She was the daughter of "Griannan the Sage: Long was the line of her fathers, and ſhe was the laſt "of

Beindoran, till lately, was the reſidence and ſanctuary of the roe buck and mountain deer; but now, the hunter roams no longer on the hill of the chace; the ſheep browze on the heath of the foreſt, and the ſons of the mountains have deſerted the inheritance of their race for ages, to reviſit its ſprings, and glades, and ſecret haunts no more! Formerly, the wolf had his haunts in our wilds and mountains, and not only proved fatal to the cattle, but, when impelled by hunger, or inflamed with rage, he even, at times, made depredations on the human ſpecies. It is ſaid, that, in the year 1680, the laſt wolf in Britain was killed by Sir Ewen Cameron of Lochiel.

Lakes, Rivers and Fiſh.—The pariſh extends nearly for 8 miles on each ſide of Lochow. This lake is, in length, about 30 meaſured miles, and at an average, about 3 quarters of a mile in breadth. It is about 36 yards above the level of the ſea, Beſides the intermediate rivers and hills, which run into

" of her race. Large and fertile were her poſſeſſions: her's the beautiful vales " below, and her's the cattle which roamed on the hills around. To Bera was " committed the charge of that awful ſpring, which, by the appointment of " Fate, was to prove ſo fatal to the inheritance of her fathers, and to her father's " race.

" Before the ſun ſhould withdraw his beams, ſhe was to cover the ſpring " with a ſtone, on which ſacred and myſterious characters were impreſſed. One " night this was forgot by the unhappy Bera. Overcome with the heat and " chace of the day, ſhe was ſeized with ſleep before the uſual time of reſt. The " confined waters of the mountains burſt forth into the plain below, and cover- " ed that large expanſe, now known by the name of *the Lake of Aw*. The third " morning Bera awaked from her ſleep. She went to remove the ſtone from the " ſpring; but, behold, no ſtone was there! She looked to the inheritance of " her tribe: She ſhrieked! The mountain ſhook from its baſe! Her ſpirit re- " tired to the ghoſts of her fathers, in their light and airy halls." OSSIAN.

Of this ill fated female, Mr. Stewart of Strachur, has given a very ingenious account in the ſtatiſtical hiſtory of his pariſh. See Vol. 4. P. 559.

to Lochow, it receives a considerable body of water at each extremity, and discharges itself laterally, into an arm of the sea at Runaw, after a turbulent series of cataracts for 3 miles. After a winding course of 14 miles, the river Urchay falls into Lochow, at the east end, about a mile below the parish church. The lake and river abound with salmon, char, trout and eels. The last is the abhorence of almost all the common people in the highlands, who consider them as water serpents, and unfit for the use of man. Four miles below the church, at a place called Catnish, shoals of salmon are taken in the Urchay, by a simple but fatal device. A bold projecting rock crosses the bed of the river, nearly from side to side. Its height is such, that few fish can overleap the torrent; which, after rains, rushes forcibly into the pool below. Many salmon, in attempting to leap fall into a *creel*, or basket, fixed transversely within the stream. But the great slaughter is effected in a more fraudulent manner. On the one side of the river there is an open, of the wideness of a mill-race, betwixt the rock and the bank. Here a wicker gate is fixed, that can be opened and shut at pleasure. Many yards above this entry, the stream is secured by a like barrier. When the water is high and turbid, the fish are let in below, and when the fisherman is satisfied with the numbers that have passed into his toils, he shuts the door of his prison; and, like a mercileſs executioner, he drags his prey with his spear, one after another on shore. Scores, at times, are thus destroyed in the course of a few hours. There are several other lakes and rivers, of lesser note, in the parish: all of them abounding with fine trout.

Roads and Bridges.—In no county has more been done, during the last 20 years, in constructing bridges, and forming useful lines of road, than in the shire of Argyll within that period

period, beſides what has been effected by the ſtatute labour, and by a yearly aſſeſsment of above 600 l. Sterling on the valued rents, many expenſive bridges and various lines of roads, have been completed by large ſubſcriptions. Glenorchay is every where well accomodated with good roads and convenient bridges. The great military road from Stirling to Tayndrom and Inverary, paſſes through the pariſh, from one extremity almoſt to the other: as does alſo, for many miles, the military road, from Tayndrom to Fort-William. In the original formation of theſe roads, the obvious and proper line has not always been ſelected. The traveller often feels, to his coſt, that *the road was brought to the gravel, and not the gravel to the road.* A more enlightened and liberal ſyſtem of road-making is now adopted; and, it is hoped, that the line will be altered from its preſent incommodious acclivities and deſcents, wherever a more eaſy and level road can be formed. From the inn of Dalmaly, to the bridge of Aw, a very judicious alteration in the line of public road has been lately made, at the expence of above 400 l. Sterling. This beautiful line winds, for miles, through woods and dells, preſenting ſuch varied and agreeable views of water, of iſlands, of towering mountains, and ſloping hills, as give an uncommon grandeur and ſublimity to the landſcape. Part of the road lies through a narrow defile, "amidſt ſuch irregularities of "nature, ſuch deep chaſms, and ſuch impending rocks, as "indicate ſome vaſt convulſions of the earth, to have happened at ſome remote period of time *."

* About a quarter of a mile below the mouth of the river Aw, in view of the road, and cloſe by the water edge, is ſeen a huge ſtone, which, to a traveller of a humane and ſerious caſt of mind, will afford matter of pleaſing contemplation. A few years ago, in a cottage at the bottom of a ſteep hill, whoſe ſummit is one range of projecting rocks, a near and craſhing noiſe was heard, reſembling a clap of thunder. The cottager, from a window, beheld the face of the hill covered with

Castles and Monastery.—At the east end of Lochow, on a rocky point, projecting into the lake, are to be seen the fine ruins of *Castle Kilchurn*. The square tower, still of a castellated form, was built in 1440, by Sir Colin Campbell * Knight of Rhodes, and ancestor of the Breadalbane family. Successive additions were made to Castle Kilchurn, and part of it was garrisoned by the king's forces, in the year 1745, to secure the peace and tranquillity of the country. But now, this great mass of building is tumbling to the ground; presenting a monument of the mutability of earthly grandeur, and of the unavoidable decay of the most durable works of human art.

On a small island, not far from Castle Kilchurn, called *Fraoch-Elan* §, there are the ruins of a castle. In the year 1267,

with detached masses of rock, bounding with velocity, and flew towards his slender and ill constructed h- tation. His wife had just gone out, and he heard her cries. A child stood at his knee, and another was asleep in a bed beside him. He sprung instantaneously to the door, with a child, as he thought, in each hand. Scarce had he crossed the threshold, when an enormous stone passed through his house, in the very place where he and his children were a moment before. He missed a child, and no longer heard the voice of his wife. He looked to the ruins of his hut; found his child alive and unhurt, in a corner where it had been thrust by the fragments of the bed and furniture, displaced by the rock in its course. In a little, the mother came to the scene. Their joy and gratitude were complete.

* Sir Colin was the second son of Argyll. His father gave him Glenorchay, with other valuable appendages for his patrimony. He was a man of high renown for his military prowess, and for the virtues of social and domestic life. He was "a stream of many tides against the foes of his people; but, like the "gale that moves the heath, to those who sought his aid." His first lady was a daughter of the Earl of Angus. Her marriage dower was 600 merks, little more than 30 l. Sterling. As her father was dead, two noblemen, relations of the Angus family, granted a conjunct bond for the payment of the *tocher*. Sir Colin afterwards married one of the co-heiresses of Stewart, Lord Lorn, by which he acquired a great accession to his fortune.

§ Fraoch-Elan was the *Hesperides* of this country. "The fair Mego longed for "the delicious fruit of the isle, guarded by a dreadful serpent: Fraoch, who had "long

1267, this little demesne, with its fortress, and some contiguous lands, were granted by King Alexander III. to Gilbert M'Naughtan, the chief of that clan, on condition that he should entertain the king whenever he passed that way. The fatal attempt of Fraoch is handed down, from age to age, in a beautiful Celtic tale, after the manner of Ossian the son of Fingal.—A translation of it, by the Rev. Dr. Smith of Campbelton, when a boy at college, is much and justly admired. There is another old ruinous castle at Auchallader, in the upper part of the parish,—a hunting seat of the Breadalbane family, in the days of the chace; but, principally intended to restrain the incursions of such *marauders*, as might attempt, in those predatory times, to pillage and despoil the country. Near it, on the slope of a hill, a fatal conflict took place, about two centuries ago, betwixt two hostile clans. Various causes are assigned for this encounter. Several cairns, still visible on the heath, mark the place where the slain were interred.

In the island of Inishail, the remains of a small monastery, with its chapel, are still to be seen. Concerning this religious house, there is little on record, and tradition conveys but small information. It was a house of Nuns, memorable for the sanctity of their lives, and the purity of their manners. At the reformation, when the innocent were involved equally with the guilty, in the sufferings of the times, this house was suppressed, and the temporalities granted to Hay, the Abbot of Inchaffrey; who, abjuring his former tenets of re-

 ligion,

" long loved the maid, goes to gather the fruit. By the rustling of the leaves, " the serpent was awaked from his sleep. It attacked the hero, who perished in " the conflict. The monster was also destroyed: Mego did not long survive " the death of her lover *."

* *Pennant's Tour.*

ligion, embraced the cauſe of the reformers. King James VI. erected Inchaffrey, into a temporal lordſhip, in his favour.

Clan M'Grigor.—In Glenorchay, the chieftain of the clan M'Grigor, a numerous and potent tribe, had long his principal reſidence, and a freehold property. On an eminence, oppoſite to the pariſh church, ſtill called *the Gallow Hill*, were executed all criminals, doomed to death in his courts of juſtice. The proceſs was often ſummary, and the execution ſpeedy. The ſun, in its courſe of one day, beheld the culprit at large, apprehended, arraigned, adjudged, condemned, and brought to execution. In other criminal courts of thoſe times, ſuch procedure was not uncommon. A ſingle act of M'Grigor's juſtice, however, is on traditional record. One of his retainers, who had intentionally put out the eye of a ſtranger, who had but one, was condemned to loſe both his own, in retaliation for the malice. For the enormities of ſome individuals, during the minority of James VI. the whole clan were proſcribed by act of parliament, as "*Lawleſs Limmers*." The ſirname was, for ever ſuppreſſed; and, at baptiſm, no clergyman was to give the name of *Grigor*, under the penalty of baniſhment and deprivation. Happily thoſe manners and times are no more! In our days, the innocent are not indiſcriminately involved in the infamy and puniſhment of the guilty. An act ſo ſevere is repealed by a more enlightened legiſlature; and the clan M'Grigor, in poſſeſſion of their name, and of every franchize of citizens, are as civilized, as peaceable, and as much diſtinguiſhed for every virtue, as any of their fellow ſubjects in the kingdom.

Rent.—The rents of the pariſh have doubled, and, in ſome properties, have tripled within theſe 40 years; and yet, the ſituation of the tackſmen is, in general, much better than at that

that period. This, particularly, is the caſe, with ſuch as have obtained large paſture tenements on long leaſes. A leaſe for 19 or 20 years, is conſidered as the ſhorteſt, on which a tenant can venture, ſecurely, to make any expenſive efficient improvements upon his poſſeſſion. In ſome places, it has been the impolitic practice of landlords, to let their grounds on ſhort leaſes: a ſyſtem, which, as it is diſcouraging and ruinous to the leaſee, muſt eventually be injurious to the leaſer.—Such is not the caſe in Glenorchay. The noble proprietor, as has uniformly been the laudable practice of the family, gives every reaſonable encouragement to the tenant. He impoſes no racked rents; he exacts no ſervices; he grants no ſhort leaſes; and, whilſt he himſelf has adequate returns from his domains, he has the ſatisfaction to hear and ſee that his people proſper.—And ſurely, to every man of feeling, and real virtue, to contribute to the happineſs of thouſands, who earn and eat their bread under him, as the children of his family, and who, ungrudgingly beſtow a great part of the fruit of their labours, in return for his protection and bounty, muſt, living and dying, afford a pleaſure and peace of mind, unknown to the mercileſs and rapacious oppreſſor;—to him, whoſe exactions come ſtained with the ſweat, and tears, and blood of thoſe, who, by nature, are his brethren, and who, from ſituation, have more than a common claim to his humanity and protection.

The real rent of the united pariſh, may be from 3,000 l. to 4,000 l. Sterling.

Wages.—In all the operations of huſbandry. and in every mechanic and domeſtic employment, the prices of labour have become, progreſſively, quadruple what they were 50 years ago. A man ſervant, fed in the family, earns annually, from 5 l. to 9 l.—A female, from 2 to 3 guineas. Still, the recompenſe,

penſe, to this laſt claſs of ſervants, is more inadequate to their ſervices than what is exacted by the former. Often, eſpecially during winter, whilſt the men paſs away the long evenings at their eaſe, and without farthering the intereſt of their employers, the buſy and conſcientious houſe-maid is unremittingly engaged, in ſome neceſſary employment in the family. Let not their earnings then, advanced as they are, be grudged; but let all, who reſpect the female character, and female utility, regret, that theſe earnings are often thrown away on the gewgaws of vanity and faſhion. Every man of humanity is pleaſed to ſee them clad in decent and ſuitable apparel; but it is painful to obſerve, that, what ſhould be a ſupport to their future families, and a proviſion for ſickneſs and old age, is miſapplied in the purchaſe of ſilks, laces, lawns and tinſel! But the moraliſt may ſpeculate on this female infirmity as he chuſes; as far as the laſs has caſh or credit, to procure *braws*, ſhe will, ſtep by ſtep, follow hard after what ſhe deems grand and fine in her betters *.

Inn.—There is an excellent inn in the pariſh, at Dalmaly. No where in the highlands has more attention been paid to the accommodation of the traveller, than on the property of Lord Breadalbane. In a line of public road, of above 90 miles in length, extending from Inveraray to Perth, good inns, with ſuitable offices, are built, at proper ſtages, and kept in repair, at conſiderable expence, by his lordſhip †. Care alſo is taken to find inn-keepers qualified for their charge, and of civil and obliging deportment to their employers.—And to enable them to provide ſeaſonably for their gueſts, farms, on eaſy terms, are annexed to the different ſtages.

Minerals,

* The prices of viands, and wages of Artificers here, are the ſame as thoſe already publiſhed in the ſtatiſtical accounts of the county.

† Viz. at Dalmaly, Tayndrom, Killin, Kenmore and Amilree.

Minerals and Indigenous Plants.—On the confines of the pariſh a lead mine had been wrought for many years, by means of a level. The 6th of the product, in bars of lead, from the ſmelting mill, was the proportion allowed to the proprietor by the mining company. It has not been wrought for two years back. In ſeveral hills of this pariſh, there are appearances of lead ore. Cobalt, talc, aſbeſtos, and a beautiful jaſper, have been found in ſmall maſſes, among our rocks and mountains. By an act of the Scoth parliament, in the year 1424, the mine was declared royal, and to belong to the king, when 3 halfpennies of ſilver could be fined from the pound of lead. Limeſtone of good quality, is quarried in various parts of the pariſh. Many indigenous herbs, which, combined with whiſky, formed of old, a great part of the Highlander's *materia medica*, are now gone much into diſuſe; Valerian, Tuſſilago, Althea, All-heal, Liver-wort, Plantain, Eye-bright, and wild carrot are found in abundance.

Well of St. Connan.—There are no mineral ſprings in the pariſh. A quarter of a mile eaſtward from the inn of Dalmaly, and near the pariſh ſchool, is the well of St. Connan; memorable for the lightneſs and ſalubrity of its water. St. Connan was the tutelar ſaint of the country. He lived, it is ſaid, near the well, and he bleſſed the ſpring. On a little eminence hard by, in a humble cot, there dwelt, about 20 years ago, a poor old man, principally ſupported by the well of St. Connan. The whole day he ſat, generally at the door of his cot, ready to give the paſſengers a drink from his favourite ſpring, for which he received ſome ſmall conſideration. It is incredible what quantities he himſelf daily drank, for the ſpace of 44 years, that he lived near the well. He never had a complaint: he arrived at the age of 85 or 86 years, in the exerciſe of

all

all his mental faculties. The evening before he died, he was ſeen drinking at the well, as uſual; but, though his practice had prevented diſeaſe, it could not ſave him from the hand of death. He retired to his cell, and in the morning was found dead in his bed. A few ſhillings, ſufficient to defray the expence of interment, were got, in an old rag beſide him. He exacted a promiſe of the miniſter of the pariſh, that no man, after him, ſhould occupy the hut. About this, he diſcovered an anxiety, not be accounted for. The day he was buried, the hut was demoliſhed. It would not, indeed, have been eaſy to have found a new occupant, for the whole inſide of this ſolitary habitation was lined with the fragments of coffins, brought from the church-yard, year after year, as repairs were needed.

Church.—The church of Glenorchay, outwardly, appears a decent building. Within, though far from elegant, it is neither uncomfortable nor incommodious. Its ſituation is commanding, and centrical for the people. It is to be regretted, that places appropriated to the public worſhip of God, ſhould not be rendered ſuitable to a ſervice ſo ſacred and ſo important. The magnificent temples of the heathen world indicated a becoming reverence for the objects of their worſhip. The church of Rome, the church of England, and the ſeveral ſeparatiſts from our own eſtabliſhment, are careful to have ſuch places, as are conſecrated to the ſervice of the Univerſal Parent, made decent and comfortable: whilſt, with us of the church of Scotland, many of our country kirks, are ſuch dark, damp, and dirty hovels, as chill and repreſs every ſentiment of devotion. They, beſides, endanger the health of every claſs of worſhippers, and encourage the indifferent and the indolent, in their neglect of inſtitutions, with the ſtated obſervance of which, moral obligation itſelf, and the public and private happineſs of man, are ſo much and ſo immediately connected.

To the honour, however, of all claſſes of people in this country, it may be ſaid, with juſtice, that no where are the ordinances of religion more reſpected or better attended. Perſons of the moſt cultivated underſtanding, and of the firſt rank in ſociety, are not aſhamed to join in the public offices of devotion. Here, cold and cruel infidelity has not yet reared her baneful banner. Here, "the rich and the poor meet toge-"ther" in the houſe of God. Public worſhip is alternately performed at the churches of Glenorchay and Iniſhail, (or Innidrynich,) 5 meaſured miles from each other. For the benefit of the people, in the conjoined extremities of the parithes of Glenorchay and Killin, the late Lady GLENORCHAY, in concurrence, and with the aid of the Earl of Breadalbane, eſtabliſhed a perpetual miſſion, with ſuitable appointments to the incumbent. This was a humane and neceſſary inſtitution, and will remain a laſting monument of the piety and beneficence of the noble foundreſs, when the millions ſquandered in diſſipation are gone, without leaving one conſoling thought to their former poſſeſſor, or entailing honour on his name, as the benefactor and friend of man. By act of parliament, the two farms of Ichrachan and Phanans are annexed, *quoad ſacra*, to the parith of Muckairn, as "*maiſt ewart* thereto." And for the ſame reaſons, the three farms of Leatters, Corries and Driſhaig, are disjoined from Ardchattan, and annexed *quoad ſacra*, to Glenorchay. In the records of the ſynod of Argyll, there is an abſtract of this act of deſignation and annexation.

Stipend, Patron and Heritors.—The living is 67 bolls of meal, and 43l. 6s. 8d. Sterling in money, excluſive of a manſe, and two glebes, containing from 16 to 20 acres, moſtly arable. The miniſter enjoys the privilege of paſturing 8 cows, the whole year, if he chooſes, on 4 contiguous farms. To this may be added, the convenience and advantages which the

miniſter enjoys, from the poſſeſſion of a ſmall adjacent farm, which the family of Breadalbane have continued on eaſy terms, for time immemorial, to the ſucceſſive incumbents of the pariſh. Without ſome ſuch tenement for ſupplying the neceſſaries of life, the ſituation of the miniſter of an inland highland pariſh, far from markets, and with a numerous family, would often be very diſtreſſing. It is but juſtice to ſay, that it has been the general practice of both the noble families of ARGYLL and BREADALBANE, in almoſt all the pariſhes connected with them, to do every thing kind and reaſonable for the comfortable accommodation of their miniſters. This teſtimony of acknowledgment, the preſent incumbent of Glenorchay and Iniſhail owes alſo to his other heritors, who are 5 in number, viz. Campbell of Lochnell, Campbell of Monzie, M'Dougall of Hayfield, Campbell of Combie, and Lindſay of Boccaird. The Duke of Argyll is patron.—In no part of the kingdom has patronage been exerciſed with more marked attention to the heritors and people of a pariſh, than in this country. Violent ſettlements are not known in our bounds. The rights of patronage and of law are therefore reſpected by the people †.

Schools.

† The following ſingular fact is the only inſtance to the contrary. At the revolution, when preſbytery was laſt re-eſtabliſhed in North Britain, a Mr. Dugald Lindſay was the Epiſcopal miniſter of Glenorchay. Mr. Lindſay would not conform. Preſſed by the ſynod of Argyll, the noble proprietor of the country reluctantly wrote a letter of invitation to a preſbyterian probationer, in the ſhire of Perth, to be miniſter of Glenorchay. He accepted; came on the cloſe of a week to the pariſh, but could find no houſe to receive him, or perſon to make him welcome. In his diſtreſs, he was drove to the houſe of the man whom he came to ſupplant, and was received with a cordiality and kindneſs, becoming a miniſter of the goſpel. Over the whole pariſh, there was a ſtrong ferment. People of all ages and conditions aſſembled, from all quarters, in the church-yard, on Sabbath, long before the uſual hour of worſhip. At the appearance of the ſtranger, accompanied by their own paſtor, there was a general

murmur

Schools.—The ſchool of Glenorchay has long been in great repute, and is well attended. Beſides the natives, many children, both from the Eaſt and Weſt Indies, have been, from time to time, ſent for their elementary education to this ſeminary; where, freed from that contagion of vice and bad example, which too often corrupts the morals of the youth in towns, they form early habits of virtue, and acquire a hardineſs and vigour of conſtitution, leſs common at their years, in warmer climates. Many of thoſe, who, in the early period of life, have been brought up at this ſchool, have become diſtinguiſhed as uſeful profeſſional men, in the various ſituations of ſociety. The ſalary of the maſter is 15 l. paid by Lord Breadalbane; which, with other fixed and contingent emoluments, makes the total income, at an average, to be better than 40 l. a year. During winter, the ſcholars amount to 100, and then an aſſiſtant is employed: and even in the ſummer months, when many of the poorer children are obliged to leave ſchool and go to ſervice, the number attending is ſeldom under 60.

The office of a ſchoolmaſter is an uſeful and laborious employment. It is a pity, that the encouragement to this claſs of men, ſhould in general, be ſo inadequate to their utility,

murmur of indignation. Twelve armed men, with drawn ſwords, ſurrounded the aſtoniſhed intruder. Two bagpipes ſounded *the March of Death.* Unmoved by the tears and remonſtrances of Mr. Lindſay, in this hoſtile and awful form, they proceeded, with their priſoner, to the boundary of the pariſh, and of the county. There, on his bended knees, he ſolemnly engaged never more to enter the pariſh, or trouble any perſon for the occurrences of that day. He was allowed to depart in peace, and he kept his promiſe. The Synod of Argyll were much incenſed. Time cooled their ardour. The proprietor was indulgent, Mr. Lindſay deſerving, and the people loved him. He continued in the undiſturbed poſſeſſion of his charge till his death, more than 30 years after the foreſaid event.

and to their labours. In most parishes, though it is by no means the case in this, the winnings of a common servant greatly exceed the income of men, whose employments expose them to much waste of health and spirits; to much hunger and cold, and to much censure; men too, many of them possessed of learning and cultivated minds, and by means of whom the first principles of morals and of science are communicated to millions. Dr. SAMUEL JOHNSON, Dr. BEATTIE of Aberdeen, and the learned Mr WALTER RUDDIMAN, with many others of the most distinguished characters, in the liberal professions, once earned their poor pittance of support, in such employments *.

There is a school for teaching girls sewing, &c. established also in the country, by the honourable Society for Propagating Christian Knowledge, with a competent salary: and there is another small school in the parish of Inishail, very poorly endowed, though the assessment on the valued rent, to form a salary, is more than common in such cases. Although we are a peaceful people, fencing masters come occasionally to the bounds, to instruct us in the art of defence: and masters of manners also do us the favour, from time to time, to teach us "the graces—the graces †."

Poor.—The poor in this united charge are numerous; amounting at times, to 60: and many of them, the aged, the fatherless, the widow, and the bed-ridden. Besides occasional supplies, there is a stated summer and winter distribution, to the amount of 24l. or 26l. a year. This sum arises from 160l. of mortified money; from the collections at church, and from small fines imposed for immoralities in the parish.

Hitherto

* In 1500, the learned HECTOR BOETHIUS, the first principal of King's college Aberdeen, had but 40 merks salary, about 2l. 4s. 5d. Sterling.

† Chesterfield's Letters.

Hitherto, no assessments, (such as the law authorises in urgent cases.) have been exacted. Such of the poor as can, and choose, are allowed to beg, without restriction. And, indeed, whilst, the indigent are so many, and the funds to support them so disproportionate to their wants, it would be cruel and oppressive to controul them. It is but justice to the humanity of the people of the parish to declare, that they never refuse to extend their charity to the needy mendicant, whether a stranger or a native. About 20 years ago, a stranger, with his family, came to reside in the parish. By accident, his house and his all were destroyed by fire. A collection was made for them at the church doors, which amounted to 21 l. and 3 pence sterling. No heritors were resident at the time. On this occasion, even the cottage widow, cheerfully, "threw her "two mites, into the treasury of the temple *."

Fuel.—The fuel, principally used in the parish, is peat. The present partial and impolitic duty on coals, together with the expence

* It is a just remark, that "the proper regulation of the poor, as it is one of "the most important, so it is also one of the most difficult circumstances of po-"lice: that a scanty supply, or a rigid execution of the penal statutes against "mendicants, compels many miserable creatures to suffer all the wretchedness "of poverty; while a liberal provision, indiscriminately bestowed, encourages "idleness, and ultimately terminates in profligacy, and vice ‡." From a perusal of the Scotch acts of parliament relating to the poor, it appears, that no pauper has a legal claim to be maintained by any parish, unless he was *born* there, or had his residence in it for the *last* 3 *years*, previous to his application. In the year 1781, one Waddle, a day-labourer, came to the parish of Hutton, having in his family a son upwards of 20 years of age, who had been paralytic from his birth. He applied to have this son put on the poor's roll, but was refused. No legal methods being taken to remove Waddle out of the parish, he continued in it for *three years after*; then applied to the sheriff, to have his son inrolled for a weekly supply from the parish funds. This the sheriff ordered, and the Court of Session affirmed his sentence ‖.

‡ Dr. *Macfarlan's Inquiries concerning the Poor.* ‖ Acts of *Sederunt.*

expence of land and water carriage, put it out of the power of the many to enjoy the comfort of coal fires, even in the worſt of ſeaſons. And the ſufferings of the lower claſſes, with reſpect to firing, in wet years, during the rigour of winter, can only be conceived by ſuch as have felt them. A few years ago, many poor people in the Weſt Highlands were obliged to burn moſt of their houſehold furniture, to repel the cold and to prepare their food. Old people and young children, unable to bear the cold, were moſtly confined to bed.

Migratory Birds.—Our migratory birds are the cuckow, the lapwing, the ſwallow, and the woodcock. In ſevere winters, the ſwan viſits our lakes for a few weeks; and, though a wary and watchful bird, it is not uncommon to ſee it fall a prey to the arts of the ſportſman. The Bohemian chatterer, a bird of a moſt beautiful plumage and ſtriking conformation, was taken, laſt ſeaſon, in this country.

Eagles.—Premiums are given in this, and in many other pariſhes, for the extirpation of the mountain eagle. Yet ſtill, this bird of prey, ſo deſtructive to kids, lambs, and game, is common in our wilds and deſerts. The eagle has either loſt much of its former audacity and ſtrength, or the many traditions reſpecting its aſſaults on the young and defenceleſs, even of the human kind, are fabulous and unfounded *.—— This

* There is a traditon current in the Iſle of Man, that a live infant, found in *the aerie* of an eagle, was brought to the proprietor of the iſland; who, having no children of his own, adopted this fortunate foundling, and bequeathed him his poſſeſſions. The fame authority aſſerts, that this child was the anceſtor of the *Stanley* family. In the genealogical hiſtory of that noble houſe, there is no alluſion to this egendary pedigree, although the impreſſion of an *eagle and child, on the coin of the Iſle of Man*, is probably owing to ſome ſuch circumſtance.

This bird is remarkable for its longevity. Mr. Keyſler relates, that an eagle died at Vienna, after a confinement of 104 years.

Character of the People.—The inhabitants of this pariſh have, from time immemorial, been marked, for peculiar regularity of conduct, and decency of manners. They are, in general, ſober, induſtrious and humane; courteous, peaceable, and contented.—They are all of the eſtabliſhed church, and attend the public inſtitutions of religion, with becoming attention and decorum. Here are no religious controverſies to agitate the human mind; to hurt the beſt feelings of the heart, and to render men fierce, injurious, and uncharitable to one another Enormous crimes are unknown in this place*. Law ſuits occur but ſeldom. The little differences, that ariſe occaſionally among neighbours, are ſettled either by the good

* The Lowland people, who have long believed, that every Highlander lived by plunder and rapine, will hardly credit, that there is perhaps leſs thievery and picking in the Highlands, than in any part of the King's dominions. In feudal times, and before the operation of law in the remote parts of the kingdom, there was a general ſyſtem of depredation, too prevalent in many Highland countries. But, as this was, often, only a retaliation for ſimilar injuries, and patroniſed by the heads of clans at variance with one another, it ſubjected the *ſpoiler*, neither to puniſhment nor diſgrace. Impelled by hunger, the ſtarving Highlander was indeed tempted, at times, to purloin ſubſiſtence from the folds of the wealthy: but, on all occaſions, he avoided the cattle of the poor, with a ſcrupulous and humane attention.

Mac-Ian, *alias* Kennedy, after the defeat of the unfortunate *Charles Stuart*, at Culloden, watched over him, with inviolable fidelity for weeks, and even robbed, at the riſque of his life, for his ſupport, at the very time that he himſelf and his family were in a ſtate of ſtarvation, and that he knew he could gain 30,000 l. by betraying his gueſt. This poor man was afterwards executed at Inverneſs for ſtealing a cow. A little before his execution, he took off his bonnet, and thanked God, "that he had never betrayed truſt, never injured the poor, "and never refuſed a ſhare of what he had to the ſtranger and needy." It is ſaid,

good offices of a juſtice of the peace, who reſides in the pariſh, or by Lord Breadalbane's Chamberlain, or Steward, when he comes to the country: and the ſmall fines that are, at times, impoſed for miſdemeanours, are generally paid to the kirk-treaſurer for behoof of the poor of the pariſh.

The ſuperior claſs of tackſmen live in commodious and decent houſes, in the enjoyment of the comforts of life, with order, neatneſs, and hoſpitality: and even the middling and lower ranks of the peaſantry live in a ſtyle of plenty and cleanlineſs, very different from that of their predeceſſors. Formerly, indeed, much of that time, which is now ſpent in uſeful induſtry, or in acquiring mental improvement, was paſſed in indolence, in the favourite chace, or in liſtening to the captivating "tales of other times."

A ſtrict attention to credit, and a marked punctuality in diſcharging every money engagement, has long characteriſed, even

ſaid, King George II. was much moved, when he heard of the fate of Mac-Ian; and declared, that if he had known the circumſtances in proper time, he would have put him in a ſituation, in which he would not have been tempted to ſteal a cow for ſubſiſtence. The Chevalier had ordered him a little money, but Mac-Ian never received it.—At Inveraray, there has not been a ſingle criminal executed theſe 42 years!

At a period not very remote, an awful retribution quickly followed an act of ſingular intemperance in this pariſh. A military party marching through the country in a hot ſummer day, ſome of the men broke into a *ſhealling*, and uſed an unwiſe freedom with a churn-full of cream they found in the hut. One man, tempted with the richneſs of the feaſt, would neither be perſuaded to moderation, nor to retire with his fellow depredators. Afraid, however, of being reported to his ſuperior, he ran hard to overtake his party. Humanity throws a veil over the ſhocking fate of this unfortunate ſpoiler. He was buried near the road, and his grave inculcates a leſſon of honeſty, chaſtened gratification and moderation, on all who behold it, and know the occaſion. He was not a Highlander.

even the pooreſt villager of the country. The ſimple promiſe of the poor to pay, without any other obligation, will, generally, procure from thoſe who know them, the loan of money in their ſtraits, and family neceſſaries from the ſhop-keeper.

Such is the ſtate of this united pariſh; and ſuch the general character of the people in it. May no future Statiſtical writer, in his acounts of either, have ever cauſe to give a worſe repreſentation of them!

NUMBER XIX.

PARISH OF CRIECH.

(County of Sutherland.—Preſbytery of Dornoch.—Synod of Sutherland and Caithneſs.)

By the Rev. Mr. GEORGE RAINY.

Name, Situation and Extent.

THE etymology of Criech is not perfectly known; it may ſignify the *bounding* pariſh, as it is the boundary betwixt Sutherland and Roſs for a great way. It may alſo ſignify the *pariſh of woods or trees*. There is ſtill a great deal of wood in it; but there was formerly much more; and ſome of the woods, being ſeen from the low country, may have given the name to the pariſh.—This, however, is but conjecture.

The pariſh is of very great extent. It is, perhaps, one of the largeſt in Scotland, running from E. to W. or N. W. from within 4 computed miles of the burgh of Dornoch on the E., to a few miles of the church of Aſſint, the pariſh on the W. coaſt. The length of it from E. to W. inhabited, is reckoned 24 computed miles; but the utmoſt bounds of the pariſh

pariſh ſtretch far into the hills and moors, lying between Criech and the pariſh of Eddrachylis, and may be reckoned upwards of 40 meaſured miles. The breadth of the pariſh is very unequal. In ſome places it is but 2 miles broad: in ſome 5, and in the top of the pariſh, it may be from 5 to 10 miles broad, and upwards. The pariſh of Criech lies on the N. of the Kyle or Frith of Tain, and the river Ockel. The Kyle flows about 11 miles above the church of Criech: The river Ockel, diſcharging itſelf into the Kyle, ſeparates it from the pariſh of Kincardine for 10 miles. The pariſh of Criech lies oppoſite to the pariſh of Kincardine, but ſtretches about ſix miles farther eaſtward, oppoſite to the pariſh of Eddertown, ſeparated from theſe pariſhes by the Kyle and the river Ockel. Its length may be ſeen to be very great, from examining any common map of Scotland.

Soil.—The ſoil of the pariſh is light and thin, except in the E. end of it, where there is deep loam; and ſome meadows on the Kyle, and the ſides of rivers in the top of it. The arable land moſtly lies on the Kyle ſide, on a hard gravel. In many places the gravel, when dug and mixed with dung, proves excellent manure. As the ſoil is thin, and lies expoſed to the ſouth, the harveſt is in general very early, much more ſo, than in the low country, or in places farther to the ſouth. There are hills and moors back from the Kyle, where the tenant's cattle are paſtured in ſummer. The hills, for the moſt part, are covered with heath, with many interjacent ſpots of green graſs, eſpecially near ſmall rivulets. The face of the pariſh is hilly. Perhaps, not a thirtieth part of the pariſh is cultivated.

Climate and Diſtempers.—The climate is very various. In the eaſt end of the pariſh, it is as temperate as on the coaſt of Sutherland. While the weather is dry and good in the eaſt

end, it may be ſtormy and very wet in the weſt part, where the hills are high and large. A difference of climate commonly takes place every 5 miles, the one fartheſt weſt being the worſt; but even here ſome exception is to be obſerved. If the wind blows from the W. for any time, there is often rain in the eaſt end of the pariſh, and if it blows from the E. there may be dry weather in the W., and *vice verſa*. Sometimes the crop has ſooner been ripe, cut down and got in, in the weſt part of the pariſh than in the eaſt.

The climate, in general, is healthy, yet there have not been many examples of longevity for the laſt 20 years, though many live till they are paſt 70, and ſome till 80: there is one living at preſent 80, and another 84. Epidemical fevers ſometimes occur, and prove mortal, according to the ſeaſon of the year in which they take place. When fevers happen, they commonly ſpread, occaſioned, perhaps, from the cuſtom that prevails, of the neighbours coming to viſit the ſick perſons, and ſtaying long with them. If a perſon is ſick, and there is appearance of danger, it is uſual to ſee the ſmall apartment crouded with neighbours and friends, many of whom muſt catch the infection. The rheumatiſm is become much more common of late than formerly. Several have been cut off by the conſumption, and there are ſeveral perſons now labouring under the cancer. The ſmall pox and meaſles have ſometimes proved very fatal. Inoculation for the ſmall-pox has ſcarce been practiſed in this pariſh. A few have been inoculated this very ſpring for the ſmall-pox, which have proved of the moſt favourable kind. It is difficult to ſay, to what the frequency of the rheumatiſm is to be aſcribed. The people now are as well lodged, clothed and fed, as their forefathers. No difference in their diet has taken place for a conſiderable time paſt, except that the people live more on potatoes for a great part of the year; which, however, are eſteemed

eſteemed wholeſome food. This pariſh, eſpecially the weſt end of it, lies at a great diſtance from all medical aſſiſtance.

Rivers, Fiſh and Lakes.—The rivers in this pariſh are the *Shin* and the *Caſsly*, and the upper part of the pariſh is ſeparated from that of Kincardine, by the river Ockel. The Shin iſſues from Lochſhin in the pariſh of Lairg. It falls into the Kyle, or Frith of Tain, at Inverſhin, 5 miles above the church of Criech. The ſalmon on the river Shin are very large, and, after being on the river for ſome time, turn brackiſh. At an average, a ſalmon barrel contains about 20 or ſo. There is, on this river, a caſcade of a conſiderable height, and a deep pool below, into which the water falls from the rock. The fiſh, leaping to get over the caſcade, fall back into a *creel*, or baſket, and are killed. Moſt of the fiſh were in uſe to be caught in this way. The caſcade is called *the Linn*. Cruives are erected this ſeaſon on the river, which runs from N. to S. The length of the river from the S. to the Kyle, is about 5 miles. The Caſsly, iſſuing from the hills on the north weſt of the pariſh, runs S. and falls into the Kyle at Roſehall. The ſalmon on this river are ſmall and white, and very tender. The river Ockel iſſues in part from the high hill of Or-bein-mor-Aſſint, whence it runs eaſtward, and falls into the Kyle, near the place where the Caſsly joins it. The ſalmon on this river are large and good. There are trouts in all of thoſe waters. The fiſhermen can eaſily diſtinguiſh the ſalmon of all theſe rivers, as well as of other two that fall into the Kyle, from thoſe of the Kincardine ſide. There are ſeveral lakes in the pariſh that abound in trouts, ſome of which are of a very good quality. The largeſt lakes are Loch-migdol and Loch-elſt, each about 2 meaſured miles long. There are many others of a leſſer ſize.

Mineral

Mineral Springs, &c.—There is only one mineral ſpring, which is near Roſehall, and riſes within a few paces of the Kyle. It is impregnated with ſulphur or iron, and it has been but little uſed, as it ſmells rank. There are traces of an iron work having been carried on in the hill immediately above it; and in the burn or rivulet above it, there is a vein of manganeſe. This vein, as far as yet diſcovered, is but ſmall, but ſaid to be of an excellent quality. Some of it has been examined by perſons ſkilled in thoſe matters.

Hills.—The whole pariſh is hilly.—A ridge of hills runs parallel to the Kyle, except where it is intercepted by rivers. The higheſt hill is in the weſtern extremity of the pariſh, called *Beinmore Aſſint*, one part of which is in the pariſh of Criech, and the other ſide in the pariſh of Aſſint. Its ſides are covered with graſs and daiſies. In ſome places it is very rocky, but affords excellent paſture for ſheep, all the year round, except in winter.

Woods.—There is a great quantity of natural wood in this pariſh, conſiſting chiefly of oak and birch; but there is every probability, that there was much more formerly. Several oak woods have been cut down within theſe 30 years, ſome of them about ten years ago, and have yielded a large quantity of excellent bark. Some old oak woods have been cut down, and no under-growths have ſprung up in their ſtead; but ſeveral young woods have been cut lately, and are growing again and in a thriving ſtate. There are alſo conſiderable plantations of firs in different parts of the pariſh. The largeſt is at Roſehall, facing the S., of great extent, and in a very thriving condition.

Moſs.—There is a great quantity of moſs in the different hills and moors, much of it of excellent quality; and the moſt

moſt part of the pariſh is well ſupplied with fuel from thence, except perhaps a few places lying at the greateſt diſtance from the moſs, and where the roads are very bad. In many moſſes, there are roots of old fir trees dug up, which ſerve for light in the winter nights. From this, it would appear that the hills have formerly been covered with fir. Often large fir trees quite freſh and ſound, and of conſiderable length, have been dug up, and when ſplit, they are uſeful for rafters in building houſes, and laſt very long.

Sea Weed.—There is very little ſea weed for manuring the land. A very little kelp is made once in three years, on the ſhore of one eſtate. However, the ſmall ſhort ſea weed is of uſe for feeding cattle in winter, and is reckoned very wholeſome.

Black Cattle.—There is a great number of black cattle in the pariſh, every ſmall tenant having his proportion, generally as many as his provender can ſupport during the winter, if he is not in ſtraitened circumſtances. In that caſe, he takes cattle from others, who have more than they can feed, at the rate of 2s., 2s. 6d., or 3s., through the winter and ſpring, as provender is plentiful or ſcarce. The black cattle are moſtly of a ſmall hardy kind, and may now, at an average, fetch, when ſold to drovers, from 2 l. 10 s. to 3 l. Sterling. Some cattle, belonging to gentlemen, are of a larger ſize, and greater value, and may be a mean of mending the breed of cattle among the common people. The people depend principally on the black cattle for paying their rents.

Horſes and Sheep.—The number of horſes was taken a few years ago, and all the horſes, young and old, amounted to 1531. There are ſeveral farms in the weſt end of the pariſh ſtocked

ſtocked with ſheep. The number of ſheep may amount to upwards of 4000, and is increaſing. Theſe ſheep farms have diminiſhed the number of inhabitants, as well as the number of black cattle and horſes. The beſt of the wool ſells at 12 s. the ſtone, 21 lbs. Scotch to the ſtone. Moſt of the ſmall tenants have a few ſheep of a ſmall ſize, and badly woolled. Their wedders, when fat, ſell at 5 s. 6 d. and 6 s. 6 d. and ſold ſome years ago at 3 s. 4 d. and 4 s. The ſheep belonging to the ſmall tenants, it is thought, ſuffer from their bad management. They put them up in a ſmall hut, juſt large enough to contain their number, both ſummer and winter. This, in all probability, hurts them.

Population.—The return to Dr. Webſter, of the ſtate of the population, in 1755, was 1705. The number of the inhabitants on the whole, is much the ſame that it was 20 or 30 years ago, being in ſome places leſs, and in others more numerous than formerly. In the year 1772-3, ſeveral emigrated to America. Some farms have been conjoined, and a conſiderable number of inhabitants have been removed out of grounds turned into ſheep walks. By all theſe means, the number of people have been conſiderably diminiſhed in the weſtern diviſion of the pariſh; but in the eaſtern they are more numerous than before. The total number of catechiſable perſons, or thoſe above 7 years of age, in ſpring 1791, came to 1384; ſo that adding the uſual proportion of $\frac{1}{4}$, the total population may be ſtated at 1730 ſouls. There are very few bachelors, as the men, in general, marry young. There are very few married perſons without children. The medium of children in each family is 5 or 6. The number of ſmall tenants, eaſtward from the river Shin, for 9 computed miles, is about 150, beſides people who have ſmall crofts.

Rent,

Rent, Cultivation and Proprietors.—The valued rent of the parish is 2983 l. Scotch. The real rent may be upwards of 900 l. Sterling. The rent of the several salmon fishings, on the rivers and frith, may amount to 140 l. Sterling. Much of the arable land is dear. In some parts of the parish, the sowing of a boll of bear, (something more than a Scotch acre,) pays 1l. Sterling. In many places the ground is fit only for small black oats, of which three crops are taken on such land, and then it is allowed to rest for 3, 4, or 5 years, after which it is cropped again. Very few experiments have been made, to ascertain how lime would answer with such ground. There are 8 proprietors in the parish, of whom only 1 resides constantly. One gentleman pays of rent 120 l. Sterling. One sheep farm is rented at 130 l.; but the majority of farms are possessed by small tenants.

Crops and Produce.—The chief crops are barley, white oats, small black oats, potatoes, and a very small quantity of pease. The oats are commonly sown in the last week of March, and beginning of April; in the few large farms, the oats are sown sooner, if the weather permits. They usually sow bear in the beginning of May. The people here are come into the practice of cultivating potatoes to a considerable amount, and find their account in it; they raise as many potatoes, as, at an average, may be sufficient to supply the place of bread for four or five months in the year. Some have them until June, and they commonly begin to use them the last week of August, and sometimes sooner. They have proved of the greatest benefit to this district. Even when victual is very scarce, and there is a great demand for bread, as soon as the potatoes are fit for food, the demand stops instantly. The parish produces, in tolerably good years, rather more victual than would be sufficient for supplying itself.—There are

fruit trees only in three or four gardens, which produce plentifully in ſome years.

Eccleſiaſtical State.—There is not one perſon in this pariſh, who does not belong to the eſtabliſhed church. There was a miſſionary miniſter ſettled for upwards of 25 years, in the heights of the pariſhes of Criech and Kincardine, who preached every third Sabbath in the high grounds of Creech. He had a ſalary of 25l. Sterling, from his majeſty's royal bounty, and of 7l. Sterling from the pariſhes. Fifteen computed miles of the pariſh of Criech were under this miſſion; but it was diſcontinued, and the ſalary removed, at Whitſunday 1789, by the Committee for managing the royal bounty, on account (as was ſaid,) of the deficiency of the Society's funds; although the Commitee had no other miſſionary in the bounds of the preſbyteries of Dornoch or Tain, and although the extent of theſe two pariſhes, contiguous to each other in two different preſbyteries, the number of the inhabitants, and their eager deſire for the means of inſtruction, and for having the ordinances of the goſpel adminiſtered among them, (on which they punctually attend,) pled loudly for the continuance of the miſſion. This would have been a great hardſhip on the people, as well as on the miniſters of their pariſhes, had not the knowledge of the caſe excited the compaſſion and ſympathy of Lady Roſs Baillie; who, out of her own liberality, has appointed a permanent miſſion in this extenſive diſtrict, with a better ſalary than was afforded by the Committee; together with large accommodations, that will render the ſtation ſufficiently comfortable.

The ſtipend of the eſtabliſhed miniſter is 72 bolls of victual, one half oat meal and the other half bear; 25l. Sterling in money, and 1l. 13s. 4d. Sterling for graſs. The decreet was obtained for the ſtipend in 1708. The pariſh can bear a great augmentation

augmentation, which is much needed, and it is hoped will be granted; living being now more than doubled, even in this corner, ſince the time this ſtipend was fixed. A new manſe was built in 1780; and the church was built laſt Summer and is now finiſhed.

Poor.—There are no funds for the poor, but the collections made at church, which are ſmall and pitiful indeed, amounting only to 4l. or 5l. Sterling a year, and a very little for dues of the mort-cloth. The number of the poor on the roll, in the eaſt diviſion of the pariſh, is 37, and in the weſt 23; in all 50. They can ſcarce get more than what is neceſſary to buy ſhoes to them: Very few, however, of this number go about begging. Moſt of them earn in harveſt and otherwiſe, as much as is neceſſary to ſupport them; they commonly get, from ſome friend or neighbour, a little land for potatoes, which is of great ſervice to them. If a perſon is quite poor, and unable to work at all, or diſeaſed, the neighbours ſend in what is nearly ſufficient; or ſome friend goes about among the tenants, and gets ſupplies for ſuch an object. On very extraordinary emergencies, a collection is raiſed in the church.

Scarcity in 1783-4.—This pariſh, like others in the neighbourhood, was in great diſtreſs in Summer 1783 and 1784, eſpecially in 1783. None however died for want. On ſeveral eſtates, the heritors procured victual to their tenants from time to time; the victual, ſent by government, was diſtributed among moſt of the families of the pariſh. The poor were ſingularly indebted to a gentleman in Glaſgow, of uncommon benevolence, who had lived in the pariſh when a boy, and who ſent money, and five bolls of white peaſe, which were diſtributed among upwards of 80 perſons, in proportion to their neceſſity. Some few removed with their families to the

ſhores abounding with cockles, &c. which were uncommonly plentiful that ſeaſon, and ſupported them for ſome time. By theſe means the lives of the people were providentially preſerved.

Ferries and Roads.—There are no bridges in this pariſh; but there are 4 or 5 ferries between it and that of Kincardine, which are croſſed by *cobbles*, or yawls, and boats, that can ferry over two horſes each, or more. The people in this pariſh and neighbourhood, have been amuſed from time to time with the hopes, that a bridge was to be built over the Kyle, at Culrain, about four miles above the church of Criech, at the expence of government. It would be of great advantage to the inhabitants of this diſtrict in particular, beſides the emolument that would accrue to the community at large, if the public road around the ferries were brought this way by a bridge. Such a bridge would be particularly convenient for drovers; all the cattle driven to the ſouth from Sutherland, Caithneſs, and Lord Reay's country, except the pariſh of Aſſint, having hitherto been obliged to croſs the Kyle by ſwimming; which, when the weather is bad, and the Kyle much ſwelled by rains, hurts the cattle greatly, eſpecially when the night following proves cold. Sometimes they refuſe to ſwim, in which caſe they muſt be ferried over by the cobble. The people pretend to foretell, whether they ſhall have a good market or not, by their readineſs to ſwim. The roads, in this extenſive pariſh, are very bad; ſtatute work is but ſeldom performed, which may be owing to this circumſtance, that few heritors reſide in it. The roads might eaſily be made good, as the bottom is hard and gravelly.

Antiquities.—Near the church, there is an obeliſk, or high ſtone, 8 feet long and 4 feet broad, marked diſtinctly with the

ſign

ſign of the croſs. According to tradition, a Daniſh chief was interred here. On the top of the Dun of Criech, a hill of a great height above the level of the ſea, and rather jetting out into the Frith, there are the remains of a rampart. The walls have been cemented with a vitrified ſtuff, ſomething ſimilar to the refuſe of iron in a ſmith's forge. The cement is as hard as a rock. It is ſaid, that this rampart was begun to be built, in the 12th century, by a *Paul M'Tier*, a branch of the noble family of Roſs. At the top of the Kyle, there is an old caſtle, ſuppoſed to have been a place where juſtice was formerly adminiſtered. This conjecture derives ſome plauſibility from the name of the hill oppoſite to it, which is called *Curor na Croike, The hill of the gibbet* *.

Character.—The people, for the moſt part, are regular and orderly, and behave inoffenſively, and many of them in an exemplary manner †. It cannot indeed be ſaid, that they are induſtrious, nor do they enjoy what would much prompt them thereto, as there are no manufactures carried on here. But what they want in point of induſtry, they make up by frugality. In ſome places, *whiſky drinking* is rather too common, which is not eaſily avoided; as they are often employed in buying and ſelling cattle, and making other bargains, in the neighbourhood of ſeveral diſtilleries. Only one perſon has ſuffered for a capital crime within theſe 20 years; viz. for theft and houſe-breaking.

Diſadvantages.

* The names of places are almoſt all derived from the Gaelic. Some of them have references to combats betwixt the clans, as *Tudamtarbback, plentiful fall; Darecha*, the *end of the battle*, &c.

† The common people all ſpeak Gaelic; but many can ſpeak and underſtand Engliſh.

Diſadvantages.—A local diſadvantage, which the weſtern diviſion of the pariſh labours under, is, that, as much of the arable land and meadows lie along the ſides of the Kyle, and the other rivers, they are ſubject to inundations every ſeaſon of the year. The want of manufactures is a diſadvantage, under which this pariſh formerly laboured, in common with the moſt of this country; though now, by the exertions of a reſpectable proprietor in the pariſh, a new ſcene is beginning to open itſelf to our view. To that circumſtance it was in a great meaſure owing, that the people were not ſo induſtrious, as otherwiſe they would have been. Young lads, in the ſpring and ſummer, uſually went in great numbers to the ſouth, in ſearch of employment. There, they got high wages, and returned in winter to their parents, or relations, ſomewhat in the ſtile of *gentlemen*, and were a burden on their friends the whole winter, until they ſet out again in ſpring. Some of them married in the ſouth; others died, or were picked up by recruiting parties. Unmarried girls went to the ſouth alſo for ſervice, eſpecially before harveſt. It is not unreaſonable to conclude, that theſe have been among the cauſes, of diminiſhing the number of inhabitants.

The only ſpecies of manufactory in theſe bounds, previous to the erecting the cotton mill, by Mr. Dempſter and his partners, was the ſpinning linen yarn: This is but a very ſcanty earning. There are 4 or 5 perſons in the pariſh, who give lint out to ſpin: one of theſe gets 10,000 ſpindles ſpun in a year; the others not near ſo much: But it is to be obſerved, that they give out lint to ſpin, to the people in the neighbouring pariſhes, as well as to the people of the pariſh itſelf: 4d, or 5d. is the moſt that a woman can earn in a day, and few earn ſo much by ſpinning.

Modern Improvements.—We ſhall conclude this paper with the obſervations of a diſtinguiſhed Britiſh patriot, and a real friend to the happineſs of ſociety, (GEORGE DEMPSTER, Eſq. of

of Dunnichen), who having purchaſed a conſiderable property in this and the adjoining pariſh, and having the management of another eſtate in this pariſh, acquired by his brother Captain DEMPSTER, has juſt begun to carry into practice ſome part of a plan, which appears to him well calculated for the improvement of a Highland eſtate. At Sir John Sinclair's expreſs deſire, his thoughts on this important ſubject, were lately communicated to the writer, in the following words.

PLAN *for improving the eſtates of* SKIBO *and* PULROSSIE.

Theſe eſtates contain about 18,000 acres of land, extending from the point of Ardnacalk on the north bank of Dornock, weſtward to Port-Leak, being an extent of 12 or 14 miles. The bulk of the eſtate is hilly, but the hills are of no great height, ſeeming generally to riſe about from 500 to 700 feet above the level of the Frith. There may be about 200 families living on theſe eſtates, with the exception of the *mains*, or houſe-farm, of each place. The farms are of ſmall extent in regard to arable ground. They produce ſome corn and potatoes, hardly ſufficient to maintain the families of the tenants. The tenants pay their rents by the ſale of cattle, which are fed in their houſes, on ſtraw, through the winter, and pick up a miſerable ſubſiſtence on the waſte and common ground of the eſtate, during the ſummer. The whole of the preſent rent is from 700l. to 800l. a year, of which more than a fourth part is paid, by the two large farms belonging to the mains, or manſion-houſe. The eſtates furniſh ſome wood, with which, and the ſwarded ſurface of the ground, cut into the form of large bricks, they make houſes and offices for themſelves, covering them with the ſame ſwarded turfs, cut thinner, and reſembling

ſlates

ſlates in their form. Once in three years, all the earthy part of theſe houſes is thrown on the dunghill, and new houſes built again of the ſame materials. The cattle commonly occupy one end of the houſe, during the winter ſeaſon. Some holes in the walls and roofs ſerve for windows and chimneys. An iron pot, for boiling their food, conſtitutes their principal furniture. Nothing can exceed the wretched appearance of theſe habitations. As to the occupations of the people, the women begin to earn a little money by ſpinning. The young men go early in the ſpring to the ſouth country, and hire themſelves for all kinds of country labour; towards harveſt, many of the women alſo go the ſame way, to aſſiſt in cutting down and getting in the crop. They all return before winter, and are ſaid to paſs their time round good fires of peat, which the country every where furniſhes, and to do very little work. In the ſouth country, however, to which they go, they are remarked for their aſſiduity, and are ſaid to be indefatigable in executing all manner of taſk work. Thoſe, who remain at home, attend to the concerns of their corn, potatoes, and cattle, and to the providing of their fuel from the neighbouring peat moſſes. The climate, near the banks of the Kyle, or Frith of Dornoch, ripens wheat, barley, oats, and peaſe; becoming gradually colder, as you recede therefrom, and aſcend the hills, which are covered with heather, interſperſed with coarſe graſs. The vallies among the hills, and the ground on the ſides of the hills, appear to be capable of being cultivated; and there are many little riſing grounds, ſome flat moors, and the face of ſome of the hills ſo bare and ſtoney, as to be fit for plantations only. It need hardly be mentioned, that the inhabitants are in general poor;—that is, poſſeſs little money or goods, except a ſtock of very indifferent cattle.

It is not the intention, therefore, of the proprietors, to exact, for ſome time, any increaſe of rents from theſe people; but,

but, on the contrary, to encourage them, by every poſſible means, to improve their little ſpots of land, to erect for themſelves more comfortable houſes, and to build them of more durable materials. On theſe eſtates, there are ſome ſtations remarkably well adapted for villages. They lie on the banks of the Kyle, which is a frith or arm of the ſea, navigable for 7 miles, by veſſels of a conſiderable burden, and for ſmall craft, about 15 miles more. In all, this Frith is navigable for 24 miles. To give a beginning to theſe villages, a company is formed, conſiſting chiefly of Glaſgow gentlemen, who have ſubſcribed a capital of 3000 l. and made ſome progreſs in erecting a manufacture of ſpinning cotton by jennies, and of weaving their yarn. Inſtructed perſons are ſent from Glaſgow to conduct the work, and to teach the natives of the country the arts of ſpinning and weaving. The town is lotted out, and ſome houſes for weaving are in forwardneſs. Veſſels of 50 tons burden can land their cargoes at this place.

A ſecond village, two miles lower down the Kyle, is alſo lotted out, and a large warehouſe already built. Here, the water is deep enough to receive any veſſel, that can enter the Kyle, and come over the bar, (known by the name of the *Gizzen Brigs*,) at its mouth, on which there is 4 fathom water at ſpring tides, and 6 or 7 feet leſs at neap tides. Here alſo, a gentleman has undertaken to eſtabliſh the weaving of linen, and to encourage the extenſion of the ſpinning of yarn all around the country. At both manufactures, apprentices will be inſtructed in the art of weaving, in order to introduce that art into the houſes of the ſmall tenants, as it is found already to be in the ſhires of Renfrew, Perth, Angus and Aberdeen. By theſe means, conſtant employment will be found for people of all ages and ſexes, and a conſiderable market opened for the productions of the country.

That the people may have nothing to divert their attention from their own buſineſs, all the ſervices performed by them and their cattle, to their ſuperiors, are commuted into money; and thirlage to the mills of the baronies is alſo aboliſhed. Meaſures are taking to give the people ſecure poſſeſſion, (for their own lives at leaſt,) of their houſes, gardens and arable lands, with full liberty to cultivate as much of the waſte land as they pleaſe. Their cattle are ſuffered to paſture on the other waſte lands, as long as they ſhall remain in a waſte condition; but the proprietors reſerve to themſelves, the power of incloſing and planting all ſuch parts of the waſte lands, as are fit for no other purpoſe. Some plantations of this kind have been already made, and the trees ſeem to thrive very well on the lighteſt ſoils. The trees are principally the larch, the Scotch fir, and the birch, intermixed with beech and mountain aſh. The reſt of the waſte land is open to every ſettler, who ſhall incline to cultivate them. Twenty or thirty new ſettlers have already exhibited ſtrong proofs of what Highlanders can do, in the improvement of their own country, when ſecured in the enjoyment of the fruits of their labour. It may be worth while to mention the nature of this ſecurity. The firſt ſettlers may improve as much land as they find waſte around them, for which they pay only 1 s. a-year during their lives. When they die, their heirs have the refuſal of their father's poſſeſſion, at an apprized value, to be fixed by arbitrators mutually choſen. This rent is invariable, till the next generation, when the valuation is to be repeated; and ſo on every generation. A little iron for tools, wood for their houſes, and ſeed potatoes and corn, is furniſhed to them for the firſt 2 years. They are exempted from every ſpecies of perſonal ſervice. Thoſe, who have viſited the mountainous countries of Switzerland, Wales and Norway, have ſeen what liberty and ſecurity can do, towards rendering them fertile. In addition to the general free-

dom

dom, which the inhabitants of this happy iſland enjoy, under our mild and durable conſtitution, the inhabitants of thoſe eſtates will enjoy perfect ſecurity, as occupiers of land. That thoſe advantages will lead them gradually to better their houſes, to improve their lands, and to alter their own condition in every reſpect for the better, is beyond a doubt.

To calculate the advantages, which will in time accrue from this ſyſtem, to the owners of 18,000 acres of land, on which it is introduced, would be no eaſy matter; but the following obſervations, will lead, perhaps, to the forming ſome idea of them. Land lets, for potatoe grounds and other purpoſes, round many towns in Scotland, at various rents, from 1 l. upwards. Manufacturers in Lancaſhire, and in ſome of the counties of Scotland, pay for the little ſpots they occupy in the country, round their own houſes, from 1 l. to 4 l. Sterling *per* acre. The cotton manufacture is ſaid to have doubled the rents of Lancaſhire, within theſe laſt 20 years. The demand for wood is very great; and as all the woods on this eſtate, will be near a navigable frith, the wood will fetch the current price, and be liable to little deduction, from the facility of carrying it to market; while the practicability of being ſupplied with that article from the Baltic, is ſaid to leſſen yearly. The probable future value of theſe eſtates, cannot be eaſily aſcertained; but, we know, that wherever induſtry has extended itſelf in Scotland, the rents of land have riſen at leaſt threefold, and much more in the neighbourhood of towns. It is to be obſerved, that this ſyſtem is attended with no expence of any material conſequence, except that part of it, which conſiſts in planting the uſeleſs land; which, as it is conſiderable, (perhaps not leſs than 3 l. per acre,) may either be omitted, or done on a ſmaller ſcale and by ſlow degrees, according to the faculty and inclination of the proprietor.

Shall we ſtate none of the advantages, but thoſe of a *pecuniary* nature? Is nothing to be ſet down, for the PLEASURE OF BEHOLDING THE PROGRESS OF THE PROSPERITY OF A COUNTRY? IS THE JOY OF SEEING TOWNS AND HOUSES ARISING AROUND YOU OF NO VALUE? NOR THE ULTIMATE BENEFIT DERIVED TO YOUR COUNTRY, BY ADDING TO IT, INDUSTRIOUS INHABITANTS AND CULTIVATED LAND; THRIVING TOWNS AND FLOURISHING MANUFACTURES? Is there no pleaſure in beholding the growth of woods of one's own planting? nor in the ſucceſs of a ſyſtem, ſo intimately connected with the HAPPINESS OF PEOPLE PLACED BY PROVIDENCE UNDER OUR CARE? Some have thought, that it would be a fitter uſe for the Highlands, to convert them into ſheep-walks. That it might be better for the people to cultivate ſheep, inſtead of black cattle, is probably true. That the ſheep is a hardier, and a more uſeful animal than the ox, may be true alſo. That the increaſe of rents, by converting cattle-breeding farms, into ſheep-walks, would be more ſudden, than by the ſyſtem here ſuggeſted, is not to be diſputed. But that the eſtates would ultimately become more valuable, is by no means ſo clear a propoſition. Tracks of land, which have been converted into ſheep farms, yield little more, at an average, than 1 l. Sterling, per 100 acres. This is indeed a better rent than before. But how contemptible muſt this rent appear, when compared with an eſtate occupied by induſtrious manufacturers, and abounding in large woods of the fineſt fir, birch, and other trees? It is to be obſerved too, that there is a certain incompatibility between ſheep, and people and trees. No care can protect new plantations from the depredations of ſheep; they overleap every fence, and elude the utmoſt vigilance of the ſhepherd. The leaves of trees are their favourite food in ſummer; and the bark is their medicine, as well as food in winter. The lower grounds

grounds, now occupied by people, muſt be reſerved for the food and ſhelter of the flock in winter; and this circumſtance ſeems to form the chief incompatibility, between ſheep and people. This argument will have the greateſt weight, with thoſe, whoſe obſervation or inquiries may have led them, to compare the mountainous parts of Spain, appropriated to ſheep-walks, with the mountains of Switzerland and Wales, occupied by free and induſtrious inhabitants. The compariſon is not to be made by units or decimals; for the advantage of men inſtead of ſheep, are as thouſands to one. As the underſtanding, induſtry and ingenuity of man, in a ſtate of freedom, are ſuperior to thoſe of the brute creation, ſo is the value of an eſtate inhabited by mankind, to one occupied by ſheep.

It is true, the people need not be driven out of the country, becauſe ſheep are introduced into it. Villages may be built for them, where they might be employed in manufactures. Let me aſk, has that been the caſe? and let me doubt a little of the ſucceſs of villages by compulſion. It is one thing to build a village, to which people may reſort if they chooſe it, and another to drive them from the country into villages, where they muſt ſtarve, unleſs they change at once their manners, their habits, and their occupations. How much better would it be, gradually to introduce ſpinning wheels and looms into their houſes, than to drive them from their houſes, their gardens, and their little fields? Beſides, are men as advantageouſly placed in villages, for cultivating the ſoil, as when diſperſed over every corner of the eſtate? Towns are ſaid to thrive in proportion to the populouſneſs of the country around them. It is by a mutual exchange of commodities, that both towns, and the country around, mutually ſupport one another. To conclude, it is neither by feeding black cattle nor ſheep, in the Highlands, that that country can be improved, but by the introduction of arts and agriculture.

agriculture. The firſt will increaſe the number and wealth of the people; the latter will augment the quantity of the production of the ſoil, both for the maintenance of people and cattle. But neither arts nor agriculture can proſper, unleſs the inhabitants are ſecure in the tenure, by which they occupy the ſpots on which they live. Good laws, a vigorous execution of them, feus, and long leaſes, are the great ſources of the proſperity of every country, of Highland, as well as of more fertile and champaign countries. Try the queſtion by this teſt. Let us aſk ourſelves, if the Highlands of Scotland, poſſeſſes at preſent thoſe ſources of improvement and wealth? To theſe indeed muſt be ſuperadded, on the part of government, good roads made at the public expence; for no mountainous country can be completely improved, till it be made acceſſible by good roads, the expence of which, its inhabitants are unable to defray.

As this is THE FIRST ATTEMPT to introduce the MANUFACTURE of SPINNING and WEAVING COTTON into the HIGHLANDS, the names of the PARTNERS of this NEW COMPANY deſerve to be mentioned. The reader will obſerve, that public ſpirit is the motive by which moſt of the partners have been induced to embark their property in an undertaking, which may prove highly advantageous to the Highlanders, and particularly ſo to the proprietors of the above and other contiguous eſtates; but never, probably, will prove ſo profitable to the other partners, as undertakings of this kind, ſituated more immediately under their own eye. Each ſhare in this company is one hundred pounds Sterling. The capital is 3000l.,—and the partners are

Mr.

	Shares.
Mr. David Dale of Glaſgow, - -	2
Mr. George M'Intoſh of do. - -	2
Mr. William Robertſon of do. - -	1
Mr. James Robertſon of do. - -	1
Mr. Andrew Robertſon of do. - -	1
Mr. Robert Dunmore of do. - -	1
Mr. Robert Bogle of Baldowie, do. -	1
Mr. Robert Mackie of do. - -	1
Mr. William Gilleſpie of do. - -	1
Mr. John Mackenzie of London, -	1
Mr. Dougal Gilchriſt of Hoſpidale, -	1
Mr. William Monro of Achanny, -	1
Mr. John Fraſer, factor to Lord Gower, -	1
Mr. Benjamin Roſs of Tain, - -	1
Mr. Scott of Dunninauld, M. P. -	1
Captain James Rattray of Arthurſtone, -	1
Mr. John Ramſay, acting manager, -	1
Captain J. H. Dempſter of Polroſſie, -	2
Mr. Dempſter of Dunnichen, - -	2
	23
Vacant, - - - -	7
	30 of 100l.

It may be proper to add, that Mr. Alexander Moriſon of Dundee, is the perſon who propoſes eſtabliſhing the linen manufacture in the county of Sutherland.

NUMBER

NUMBER XXII*.

PARISH OF DUFFUS.

(*County and Synod of Moray.—Preſbytery of Elgin.*)

By a FRIEND *to* STATISTICAL INQUIRIES.

Extent, Surface, Soil and Produce.

DUFFUS extends 5 miles in length, from E. to W. along the S. coaſt of the Moray Frith, and in breadth from 2 to 3 miles S. and N. It is one continued plain, excepting a riſing ground, of no great height, near the middle of the pariſh, which is every where arable. Along the coaſt, all the length of the pariſh, and more than half a mile of the breadth of it, the ſurface is a meagre, green, benty paſture. All this ground had formerly been a rich cultivated ſoil; but for many years, has been overblown with dry ſand, from the weſtern beach. The ſand has for ſome time ceaſed to blow, and a great part of this ſpace may again be brought into culture, by the application of the ſpade or trench plough. There have already been ſome ſucceſsful experiments of this kind, and in many places, there is but little depth of ſand upon the top.

All

* N. B. The PARISH of CRIECH, marked NUMBER XIX, ſhould have been NUMBER XXI; and all the preceding pariſhes, (from CARLUKE, which is erroneouſly ſtated as NUMBER VIII, inſtead of NUMBER IX,) are numbered *one* too low.

All the reſt of this pariſh is one continued arable plain, capable of producing every thing that will grow any where in Scotland. The eaſtward diſtrict is a deep rich clay, reſembling the Carſe of Gowrie, and is remarkable for ſuperior crops of wheat, and of peaſe and beans. The weſtern diſtrict is a black earth, in ſome places ſo much mixed with ſand, as to render it of inferior quality; but in other places ſo remarkably rich, as, without any application of modern huſbandry, to produce crops, particularly barley, for quality and increaſe not to be ſurpaſſed in Scotland; and reaped as early as the ſame crop on the coaſts of Lothian, where ſowing is in general earlier, and where agriculture is underſtood. The barley of this diſtrict, when ſent to the Frith of Forth, yields as good a price as the beſt Stirlingſhire or eaſt Lothian barley. Along the coaſt of this pariſh, there are quarries of fine freeſtone, and, a little way up from the coaſt, quarries of lime-ſtone; a treaſure in agriculture, locked up from us for want of fuel, and which nothing but the abolition of the COAL TAX can open. The plain of Duffus, together with the ground of the adjoining pariſhes, is often (perhaps more from richneſs than ſituation) called the *Heart of Morayſhire*,

Coaſt.—The coaſt of this pariſh is generally flat. At the weſt end, the land is at preſent only 4 feet above the level of the water. At this quarter, during the courſe of this century, the water has increaſed conſiderably on the land. Should it ever riſe 4 feet higher than it does at preſent, it muſt fall into the lower grounds to the eaſtward, and overflow a great proportion of the extenſive plains of Duffus, Drainy, Leuchars, Spiney and Innes. Yet this *poſſibility* is ſo little regarded, that perhaps no one ever bought or ſold the property of theſe diſtricts, a farthing lower from this conſideration. How far it is expedient or practicable, to ward off ſo great an evil,

by erecting mounds and bulwarks on the ſhore, is left to thoſe immediately concerned to determine.

Climate.—The ſuperior earlineſs, fertility, and warmth, of the plains of Morayſhire, are facts more certain than eaſy to be accounted for. It is known, that we are in a very northern latitude. The mountains of Sutherland and Caithneſs, ſeem to be at too great a diſtance from us, to afford us ſhelter from the north winds, which blow over a great ſurface of water before they reach us. To the E. we are alſo open to the German Ocean. It is true, that we have leſs rain than elſewhere, which is ſaid to be accounted for by the flatneſs of our county; but other counties of Scotland, equally flat, have more rain. Our ſurface alſo inclines to the N., and the only near hills we have, are thoſe on the S., ſeemingly more calculated to overſhadow and hurt us, than to give us warmth. It is ſaid, our ſoil is light, and therefore warm: it is ſo in many places; but there are alſo large diſtricts of deep black earth, and of rank clay, where the ſame earlineſs appears. After all, were we merely to conſult taſte and imagination, in the choice of a reſidence, many would prefer what are often to be met with in the ſouth of Scotland, green hills, with leſs fertility, and warmth in the valleys, to our dryer, earlier, and richer plains, with the proſpect of black gloomy hills on the upper landſcape.

Diſtempers.—Pectoral complaints, rheumatiſm, and fevers, are the moſt frequent diſeaſes. The king's evil is not uncommon; and of late madneſs ſeems to be increaſing, even among the common people. Upwards of 20 years ago, agues were frequent near the lake; but were confined to that ſituation. None of the ſea-faring people are ever ſeized with agues. The itch is become much more rare than it was formerly. It is a truth, which no mere *Engliſhman* will readily believe, that

that in this comparatively rude part of Britain, the itch, at preſent, is leſs frequent, in proportion to its population, than in the Britiſh capital. With us, it ariſes from want of cleanlineſs in our perſons and clothes; but in London, confined ſituation, ſtrong feeding, and a thronged population, are the co-operating cauſes.

Woods.—Upon the ſouth border of this pariſh, a common was lately divided by the different proprietors, and planted with Scotch firs. Planting here is doubly meritorious, as wood is needed equally for timber and for fuel. It may be obſerved, that the planting of foreſt trees is the only branch of improvement, in which our country has of late kept pace with the improving diſtricts of Scotland. Within the laſt 25 years, conſiderable plantations have been made. In the eaſtern diſtricts of the county, Scotch firs chiefly appear, even in many places where it is preſumed the ground would have nouriſhed better wood. In the weſtern diſtricts of our county, Scotch firs have been employed in the plantations, as they ought to be where the ſoil and climate require it, merely as nurſes in tender years, to more beautiful and valuable trees, as oak, elm, aſh, &c.

Orchards.—Buchanan ſays, "that Moray, for pleaſantneſs, and the profit ariſing from fruit trees, ſurpaſſes all the other counties of Scotland." In modern times, we have much neglected this culture; and our orchards are at preſent often found about deſerted caſtles and religious houſes, nearly as much in decay as the buildings they ſurround.

Draining of Lakes.—The art of draining lakes, ſo as to render grounds fit for agriculture, ſeems to be here, as it is indeed throughout Scotland in general, but in its infancy.

The lake of Spiney has been allowed to ſpread for miles, beyond its original bed, and to cover, in whole, or in part, a large portion of very rich ground. A few years ago, an imperfect attempt was made to draw off the water from the upper grounds, by which ſome hundreds a-year were gained to the proprietors; but a complete draining, which is very practicable, and would be deemed eaſy in other countries, would produce thouſands.

Cultivation.—Agriculture, with a few exceptions, is here in a very low ſtate. The old plan of inceſſant tillage, without reſt to the ground, or without having any ſufficient proportion of it ſown out in graſs, or other green crops, ſtill prevails. Graſs, on the little ſpots where it is ſown, thrives remarkably well. Our tenants are either without leaſes altogether, or have leaſes too ſhort for anſwering any valuable purpoſe. No wonder then that farming has not advanced. Our farms are ſmall, and we have no ſubtenants. The pariſh is totally open, excepting ſuch incloſures as are round gentlemen's places. Various are the evils incident to open fields. One of the moſt teaſing, and not the leaſt hurtful, is the devaſtation inceſſantly made by our half ſtarved cattle, upon the adjoining corn fields, whoſe hunger impels them to break from the range of graſs, to which they are ſtaked, or from the charge of careleſs boys and girls ſet to watch them.—Seaweed is much uſed for a manure.

Services.—Some ſervices are ſtill continued here; and upon one eſtate, the *tenth ſheaf* is drawn in teind from the field, as part of the rent. Rent is paid chiefly in grain, often at the rate of a guinea per acre,—a price not too high for the quality of the ground; but too high without leaſes, ſtrength or ſkill to cultivate it. The abject ſpirit of feudal habits, has made our tenantry

tenantry undervalue their labour, and give to the ſuperior ſuch a proportion of their earnings, as leaves them without a decent maintenance; and renders this claſs of men, of all thoſe who are able to labour, the pooreſt and moſt dependant among us. Their poverty has thruſt them out of the rank, which it is advantageous to the community, that their profeſſion ſhould hold.

General Appearance.—Although there is abundance of excellent ſtones for building houſes, the people in general are ill lodged. The meanneſs of their cottages, the leanneſs of their cattle, the open unimproved appearance of the fields, &c. preſent to the eye of a ſtranger a very unfavourable view of a country naturally rich. Perhaps it was, with ſuch objects before him, that the great living hiſtorian of Scotland, while in Moray, ſaid with ſurpriſe, "*Is this the fine province, of which I have heard ſo much?*"

Black Cattle, Horſes, Sheep, and Poultry.—Our mode of farming makes little proviſion for black cattle, of which our ſtock is not great. We plough all with horſes, and theſe are ſtill of an indifferent breed, and ill kept up. They ſubſiſt in winter chiefly upon ſtraw; the farmers have no hay.—There are, in the pariſh, about 2000 of the ſmall white-faced breed of ſheep, fed on the benty paſture already mentioned.—Our poultry have long been remarkable for large ſize and good quality; whether this is to be aſcribed to the ſuperior richneſs of our grain, or whether there is any peculiarity in the breed, is not aſcertained.

Population.—Our population is at preſent 1500. It has not greatly diminiſhed for ſome years paſt, notwithſtanding there have been a few emigrations. The return to Dr. Webſter

ſter in 1755, however, was 1679. About the end of laſt war, ſome individuals went to North America, a few of whom returned and ſettled at home, bringing bad tidings of the country, which their imaginations had figured to be the *fairy-land* of wealth. Since that time, thoſe who would have gone to America, had the proſpect been favourable, have preferred a *home* emigration to the ſouthern parts of Scotland, particularly Glaſgow, Paiſley, &c. And from this part of the north, there is, and always has been, a conſtant ſucceſſion of adventurers iſſuing forth to the Britiſh capital, the Eaſt and Weſt Indies, and other parts of the empire. There are 6 heritors in this pariſh. By far the greateſt part of the people, are employed in agriculture*.

Trade.—There is a village, called *Burgh-head*, upon the coaſt, containing 400 ſouls, more than two thirds of whom follow a ſea-faring life. Moſt of the reſt are quarriers and ſtone maſons. Here there are a few ſmall boats employed in fiſhing, and 7 large boats are hired to the fiſhing on the weſt coaſt, on board each of which there are ſix people. Five large boats, with ſix people in each, are alſo employed in tranſporting ſtones from the quarries, to different parts of the country. Two ſloops are employed, chiefly in carrying grain to the ſouth of Scotland, and in bringing back coals.

Imports and Exports.—The principal imports are coals, moſtly from Northumberland; and merchant goods, chiefly from London. Our exports are *men*, grain, linen yarn, and a few black cattle. The firſt and the laſt go chiefly to England, eſpecially to the London market. The grain and yarn go to the ſouth of Scotland.

Fiſhing.

* The wages of a male labourer without victuals, is 8d. per day; of a female 4d. In autumn both are higher. When fed by the employer, men ſervants in huſbandry get from 5 l. to 8 l.; women ſervants from 30 s. to 40 s. a year.

Fiſhing.—There is a good white fiſhing here; cod, ſkate, ling, &c. are ſold at preſent, from 1 d. to 1 ½ d. the pound. We have alſo hollibut, mackarel, whitings, ſeath, &c; but although there are turbot on the coaſt, our people cannot fiſh them. Haddocks have never entirely deſerted our coaſt, but they are at preſent in ſmaller numbers, and in deep water farther from land: Of conſequence, they ſell ſix times dearer than they did lately, being now at the rate of one penny each. They are larger in ſize than before. Of late, a lobſter fiſhing has been ſet a going in the Moray frith by an Engliſh company. On the ſtation, which included the coaſt of this pariſh, and of Drainie, there were caught laſt ſummer, and ſent to the London market, 60,000 lobſters. It is ſaid that no lobſter traps were ever before ſeen on this coaſt. If this be true, it ſhews how long mechanical inventions are of becoming univerſal. So little are the people here accuſtomed to mechanical operations, that after ſeveral fruitleſs attempts, they have not yet been able to imitate with ſucceſs this ſimple invention *.

Propoſed Improvement.—At the village of Burgh-head, upon the weſt ſide of the promontory, nature has pointed out a ſtation well adapted for a deep, a capacious, and a ſafe harbour. The property belongs to Sir Archibald Dunbar; and this gentleman, as well as the country at large, would be much benefited by ſuch an erection. It could be made at a moderate expence, and with proper precautions, ſucceſs would be certain. When one conſiders, that there is not along the whole ſouth coaſt of the Moray Frith, from Buchanneſs to Inverneſs, (upwards

* In Statiſtical accounts, the progreſs of mechanical inventions, ought not to be omitted. The benefit of ſuch diſcoveries often remains confined to corners, becauſe the public is not made acquainted with them. The improvement of a plough, a loom, a ſpade, a wheel, a lever, &c. as well as of the more complicated machinery of a ſhip, or of a ſpinning jenny, it is of importance to have as generally, and as quickly known as poſſible.

(upwards of 100 miles) one good or ſafe harbour, the propriety of this undertaking appears in a ſtrong point of view. Moſt of our preſent harbours are at the mouths of rivers, which are conſtantly forming bars and ſhallows. At Burgh-head, there is no river; there is ſhelter from dangerous winds, a fine bottom, and water of any neceſſary depth. Burgh-head is nearly at an equal diſtance from Elgin and Forres; and if it had a good harbour, would ſoon become the port of both towns. Commerce and manufactures would of conſequence ſoon viſit this part of the country, and all the various advantages, ariſing from them to the public, would quickly follow ſuch an important undertaking.

Church, Sectaries, School, and Poor.—The ſtipend is 8 chalders of barley, and 22 l. Sterling. Sir Archibald Dunbar is patron. Till commerce and manufactures arrive, to put money into the purſes of the lower ranks, we cannot expect to ſee that multiplicity of religious opinions, and diverſity of worſhip, which mercantile wealth, in a ſpecial manner, produces. We have two or three Antiburghers. A ſmall Non-jurant meeting has exiſted in the pariſh, ever ſince Preſbytery was eſtabliſhed. It has been upheld, for many years paſt, by a very ſmall number of very poor peaſants. Will it be believed, 200 years hence, that ſuch a deſcription of people had, during the whole of their lives, been at the expence of a paſtor and place of worſhip, chiefly that they might *clandeſtinely* offer up their prayers for a *proſcribed race of Kings*, whom they never ſaw. Theſe people are remarkable for their good neighbourhood, and Chriſtian fellowſhip with thoſe of the eſtabliſhment around them.—The parochial ſchool here has no other ſalary, than 7 bolls of bear, called *Reader's Bear*. The number of ſcholars may be from 40 to 50. Of all governments, ours requires moſt, that youth be well educated, and

and knowledge univerſally diffuſed. In thoſe appeals to the people, which it neceſſarily produces, nothing ſo much as a competent degree of knowledge can guard againſt the effects of impoſture, and can eſtabliſh, from age to age, in the public mind, a ſteady attachment to its free and unequalled conſtitution.—The poor at preſent amount to 60; and all the public ſupply they have is from the church collection, which is about 5 s. each ſunday: ſcanty proviſion indeed! We received with gratitude our ſhare of the bounty in grain, ſent to us, in the year 1783, by a wiſe and humane Legiſlature. How ſtrange, that the ſame humane and enlightened policy, which ſaved from famine many individuals in one ſeaſon, ſhould ſhut its eyes for ſo many years, againſt the operation of a tax (viz. that on coals), which, in its effects, has, every year, embittered the exiſtence of thouſands in the northern parts of Scotland, and, at the ſame time, has proved an invincible bar to the increaſe of population and wealth, by the introduction of manufactures. Thank God, that tax is about to be aboliſhed.

Fuel.—The moſſes here are utterly exhauſted; and we depend on Northumberland chiefly for coals, which coſt very dear. The expence of a private family, ſituated at the diſtance of 8 miles from the harbour, and uſing three fires conſtantly, is about 24 l. a-year, including the payment of carriage from the ſhip. When the odious and impolitic tax on this commodity, at the Red-head, is taken off, then ſhall we of the north date *the firſt year of equality, and of rational taxation.*

Roads.—We have no turnpikes, nor is the ſtatute labour commuted. Road-making here is, as yet, but in its firſt rudiments. It ſeems ſtrange, that ſociety, all over Europe, ſhould have perfected (ſo far as it appears capable of perfection,) intercourſe by the watery element, long before general plans have been any where adopted, for perfecting the internal intercourſe of countries, by rendering good roads univerſal.

There is now, however, reaſon to expect, that the contraſt which almoſt every quarter of this kingdom at preſent exhibits, between made roads and unmade, between comfortable motion, and uncomfortable, between quick and ſlow journeys, muſt operate ſtrongly and rapidly, in rendering good roads univerſal *.

Eminent Men.—Two of the ableſt men, which this part of Scotland has produced, were both heritors of this pariſh; Sir Robert Gordon of Gordonſton, father of the preſent Sir William, and Mr. Gordon of Clunie, father of the preſent Mr. Baron Gordon. The former gentleman held a ſeat in the Britiſh Senate; but it is ſaid, that, owing to incumbrances upon a fortune now remarkably affluent, he was induced in early life to quit a ſcene, where, from his ſingular eloquence and profundity of intellect, nature had ſo remarkably fitted him to ſhine. It was afterwards the lot of thoſe two gentlemen, to be frequently oppoſed to each other in the petty competitions of private life; in which they diſplayed an ability that marked them out to all their co-temporaries, as individuals far ſurpaſſing the common line of human genius. It is not always the fortune of nations to be able to draw, from the great maſs of the community, ſtateſmen of ſuch ability as thoſe two individuals poſſeſſed. They have left no literary memorials, however, behind them.

Antiquities.—In Malcolm II's reign, the Danes took poſſeſſion of Moray. The king headed an army againſt them in perſon, and was overcome in a pitched battle. "Upon this," ſays Buchanan, "the caſtle of Nairn was ſurrendered to them, which they

* *Query*, When labourers are in ſuch requeſt, and farmers ſo pinched, by the high wages they muſt pay their ſervants, why might not the military, in peaceable times, be employed in road-making, and other public works?

"they ſtrongly fortified, and of a peninſula made an iſle, by cut-
"ting through a narrow neck of land; and then they called it
"by a Daniſh name, *Burgh*." All our hiſtorians are miſtaken in placing this fort at *Nairn*, where there never was any ſuch building. But, in this pariſh, the peninſula above mentioned is ſituated; and upon it, there are large remains of a regular fortification. The cut made to inſulate the promontory is yet viſible, but now dry and nearly filled up. The place ſtill retains its Daniſh name, being generally called by the common people *Burgh*, and ſometimes called and written *Burgh-head*. 2. After Malcolm had overcome the Danes, under Camus, in the battle of Panbride, in Angus, Camus, with his remaining troops, attempted to retreat to Moray, by the mountains, but was overtaken, routed, and ſlain. There is an obeliſk ſtanding at the weſt end of the pariſh, conjectured to be the obeliſk which, hiſtorians ſay, was erected for this victory; and near this monument, there is a village called *Kaim*, which is ſuppoſed to be the village mentioned by Buchanan, as retaining the memorable name of Camus. 3. Upon the north-weſt border of the lake of Spiney, there are ſtanding upon an artificial mound, ſurrounded with a foſſee and draw-bridge, the walls of a ſtrong caſtle, called *Old Duffus*. It is known to be of great antiquity; but at what preciſe time it was built, or who were the original proprietors, cannot be traced with any degree of certainty. It is ſurrounded with orchards and foreſt trees, and, ſtanding in the heart of a charming plain, preſents, at every point of view, one of the moſt picturesque and beautiful objects which the country exhibits. 4. At the village of Duffus there is a ſquare, (in the centre of which the church is placed), ſurrounded by four ſtreets regularly paved, the workmanſhip of *Oliver Cromwell's* ſoldiers ‡.

‡ Had it not been for ſwelling the Statiſtical work too much, to have allowed a corner in it, for a ſelection of ſuch epitaphs as are curious, would have fur-

Diſadvantages.—The principal of theſe, are the diſtance from mills, and a ſevere *mill thirlage*,—idleneſs,—little attention to induſtry,—a want of manufactures,—a want of general ſkill

niſhed a pleaſant morſel to readers of a certain taſte. The following epitaph is found on the tomb-ſtone of a ſailor in the church-yard of Duffus.

" Though Eolus' blaſts, and Neptune's waves, have toſs'd me to and fro,
" Yet now at laſt, by heaven's decree, I *barbour* here below :
" Where at an *anchor I do ly*, with others of our fleet,
" Till the laſt trump do raiſe us up, our *Admiral* CHRIST to meet."

The Gaelic is not ſpoken on the coaſt of Morayſhire. We ſpeak the Engliſh mixed with a large portion of provincial dialect. Our accent is, in the ear of a ſtranger, ſnappiſh and provoking, aſſimilating to that of Aberdeen, but is ſaid not to be quite ſo invincible as theirs, to thoſe who leave the country. It is more diſagreeable and more difficult to overcome, than the accent of our weſtern neighbours of Inverneſs; beſides, that they have an advantage over us in uſing none but modern Engliſh words. The remark, which ſtrangers make of us, that we ſeem unwilling to open our mouths when we ſpeak, is fully confirmed, by finding that of the 16 vocal articulate ſounds which compoſe the Engliſh language, we have totally thrown out in our dialect the two fulleſt and moſt ſonorous, and have ſubſtituted ſhort and ſlender ſounds in their place. No Morayſhire man of the lower ranks ever pronounces broad *a*, or long *o*; for the firſt he always uſes the ſhort and ſlender ſound of *a*, as *lă* for law, *Aguſt* for Auguſt, *ăl* for all; for the laſt he always uſes likewiſe the ſhort and ſlender ſounds of *o*, as, *clŏs* for clōſe, *rŏd* for rōad and rōde, *nŏt* for nōte, *rŏt* for rōte, *nŏ* for nō, *chŏck* for chōke, *pŏſt* for pōſt. This peculiarity is the more remarkable, becauſe, although theſe two full ſounds of *a* and *o*, are very prevalent in England, yet they are ſtill much more ſo in the ſouth of Scotland; inſomuch that the more frequent uſe of them, is that, which (next to the North Britiſh accent) moſt readily diſtinguiſhes the language of a ſouth country Scotchman of education, from the language of England. And perhaps, from this circumſtance, we have received our national nick-name, in the broad ſound of *Sawney*. But, although faſhion is now beginning to force upon our middling ranks here, thoſe two full ſounds, yet they feel, in the endeavour to pronounce them, nearly the ſame difficulty, that would attend the introduction of ſounds altogether foreign. Our diſlike to full ſounds, alſo appears in our preference of the ſlender *ee*, which in the language of the north, uſurps occaſionally the place of almoſt every other vowel, as *meen* for moon, *ſpeen* for ſpoon, *freet* for fruit, *yeel* for yule, *meedow* for meadow, *teetle* for title,

ſkill in agriculture,—a perplexing and inconvenient variety of weights and meaſures,—want of fuel, attended with loſs of health and lives among the poor,—frequent celibacy, or late marriages, occaſioned by poverty and depreſſion,—an oppreſſive coal-tax,—and an inconvenient diſtance from a Cuſtom-houſe, being 40 miles from Inverneſs, which is the neareſt.

Advantages.—The principal are, a ſea-coaſt,—a good ſoil,—a good people,—and a good climate. Whether what hiſtorians remark, of our having in the plains of Moray, about 40 days more of dry weather through the year, than in any other part of Scotland, be preciſely accurate, has never been aſcertained.

Character and Manners.—Society in this country is as yet chiefly divided into *high* and *low*. The latter claſs, though poor

eſh for uſe, *peend* for poind, &c. Our people ſubſtitute the ſound of f for wh, as *fat* for what, *futch* for which, &c. They pronounce ſuch words as *filthy*, *ſcal*, *will*, *which*, &c. as if ſpelt *fulthy*, *ſuſcal*, *wull*, *futch*, &c. They ſuppreſs *r* in a good many words, as *fiſt* for firſt, *hoſs* for horſe, *puſs* for purſe, &c. This is the more remarkable, as in general the Scotch pronounce this letter much more forcibly than the Engliſh do. The gutturals, *gh* and *ch*, are more frequently pronounced here, than in the ſouth of Scotland. The Scotch and French *e*, which is never heard in England, though not in ſo frequent uſe here as in the ſouth of Scotland, is notwithſtanding ſo prevalent as to have the name of this vowel expreſſed in that ſound: as is alſo the caſe in the reſt of Scotland. Here *w* and *v* are ſounded for one another; but this is alſo the caſe among the illiterate in other parts of Britain. The French *u*, reſembling the Τψιλον ſound, and ſo frequent at Edinburgh and the neighbouring countries, never found its way to the north. It was imported by the Scotch court from France. The Scotch diphthong *ei*, we uſe as frequently as in other parts of Scotland; for inſtead of pronouncing the Engliſh *i* in *life*, *ſtrife*, &c. we pronounce thoſe words as at Edinburgh; *leif*, *ſtreif*, *kneif*, &c. The ſound of ſhort Engliſh *i*, as in *pit*, *fit*, *pick*, &c. is never uſed in our dialect. Its ſubſtitute is a ſound approaching nearer to the ſhort Engliſh *e*, than to the ſhort Engliſh *i*, as if ſpelt, *pet*, *fet*, *peck*: this however is common to our lower ranks, with the reſt of Scotland.

poor and depressed, are not querulous, but peaceable and well disposed. The higher ranks still retain, comparatively, a considerable portion of the manners of the old barons. In some instances, those peculiarities of behaviour are apparent, which an exclusion from the public eye, and a remote situation, are ready to produce. So that we are reminded, at times, of the remark of a celebrated dramatist: "In the cities and popu- "lous parts of the empire, there prevails such a uniformity of "level manners, that I have been obliged to beat about amongst "the out-skirts of the country, for characters, at once *natural* "and *singular*, with which to fill my drama." Our middle ranks, compared with those of other countries, are yet inconsiderable. They are not fully occupied with business,—have no stile of manners appropriated to their station,—but are fond of the company and manners of their superiors, and converse more frequently, than is done in other places, about modes and fashions in dress and manners. A superior degree of *shrewdness*, has been commonly affixed to the character of a north-country man, which is well expressed in the common adage, "you are *too far north* for me." The remark is more applicable to our neighbours of the Aberdeen and Inverness districts, than to us; compared to them, we, in Morayshire, are a blunt and plain people. Our people are as yet sober, and little addicted to the intemperate use of spirits. The suppression of smuggling, so happily effected of late by the vigilance of government, has banished foreign liquors, and introduced very generally the use of whisky of our own distilling, which is both wholesomer and cheaper. Beer, however, is still too little used, for which whisky is a most improper substitute. It is submitted, whether the price of this unnecessary article ought not to be kept so high, as, if possible, to prevent it from being in too frequent use among the lowest ranks. Dislike for diversity in religious opinions, and modes of worship, together

gether with the illiberal prejudices reſpecting *Highlander* and *Lowlander*, have greatly ceaſed amongſt the people. They became Preſbyterians more from accident than from temper. During the alternations of Preſbytery and Epiſcopacy, which took place after the Reformation, they did not at all diſcover that decided preference to Preſbytery, which marked the weſtern and ſouthern counties. Had not their ſentiments been keener than ours on this point, our iſland would probably at preſent have had but one national church. At the Revolution, few of the clergy of this province conformed to Preſbytery, but availed themſelves of the indulgence which the government gave, of allowing them to remain in their benefices for life, upon qualifying to the civil government. And in order to cheriſh Preſbytery, it was neceſſary, from time to time, to ſend clergy from the ſouth country to ſerve the cure. That horror at the name of *holidays*, which was once a characteriſtic of the Puritans, and *true blue* Preſbyterians, never took poſſeſſion of our common people here: and they ſtill celebrate (perhaps without ever thinking of the origin of the practice), *St. John's* day, *St. Stephen's* day, *Chriſtmas* day, &c. by aſſembling in large companies to play at foot-ball, and to dance and make merry. It is among the marks of an improving country, to find all the different ranks of ſociety enlarging their ſphere of motion. The higher ranks roam chiefly for amuſement, and from curioſity; the lower move principally with a view to buſineſs and gain. In both caſes, the conſequences are beneficial to the diſtrict to which they belong, by giving riſe to a wider compariſon of objects and uſages. The common people reſident in Scotland every where, at preſent, move more from their native ſpot than formerly. In the time of our grand-fathers, fewer of the commonality croſſed the Spey or the Findhorn, (the two rivers bounding the country), than now viſit diſtant counties and towns, and even foreign

reign regions. The improvement derived from this change, is here, as yet, but beginning to be felt. The dress is what is common in the low countries. The women, among the common people, come abroad to church and fair, without caps or bonnets on their heads; and, instead of cloaks or mantles, are often dressed in striped blankets; such as are used for beds. The last particularly strikes and offends the eye of a stranger. An English woman, who came among us lately, said, this dress always put her in mind of M'Beth's witches at Drury-Lane. Sirnames are here more numerous, in proportion to the population, than in the Highlands, but less numerous than in the southern districts of Britain.

NUMBER

NUMBER XXIII.

PARISH OF DUMBARNY.

(*County and Preſbytery of Perth.—Synod of Perth and Stirling.*)

By the Rev. Mr. DAVID BEATSON.

Extent, Situation, and Proſpect.

THE pariſh of Dumbarny extends in length about 4 Engliſh miles, and in breadth about 3. It is the moſt beautiful part of Strathearn; incloſed, as it were, on the ſouth by the Ochill hills, on the north by the hill of Mordun or Moncrieff, on the weſt by riſing grounds, interſected by the river Earn in various windings; the flat and riſing grounds being adorned with planting, beltings, avenues, and hedge-rows. The great road, running acroſs the pariſh, and the ſloops under ſail on the river, with gentlemen's ſeats interſperſed, form a moſt delightful landſcape. The view from the top of Mordun is extenſive, various, and grand. The ingenious

Mr. Pennant, on account of the richneſs and variety of this proſpect, calls it "*the* GLORY *of* SCOTLAND."

River, Fiſh, and Bridge.—The river Earn, which runs through the pariſh, has its ſource in the loch of that name, and joins the Tay about 3 Engliſh miles below the bridge. The tide flows about 2 miles above the bridge; but the water is not ſalt. Sloops, from 30 to 50 tons burden, with lime and coals, come to the bridge; and, by a little attention, the country might, by the ſame navigation, be ſupplied with wood, iron, and other articles of foreign commerce. Salmon, trout, pike, and ſome perch, are found in the river; and the proprietors, on each ſide of it, have ſalmon fiſhings, which are of no great value. The bridge over the Earn is ſuppoſed to be of great antiquity. It is kept in repair by the town of Perth, for which the town has always had a cuſtom or toll; but this is far from being an adequate fund, conſidering the great ſums that have been expended in repairs.

Soil, Cultivation, &c.—The ſoil of this pariſh is various. Clay, till, loam, and ſome light land, are found. The preſent fertility of the land is, in a great meaſure, owing to the effects of lime, which is a powerful and ſucceſsful manure, eſpecially on the clay land. They lay from 40 to 60 bolls of ſhells, or unſlacked lime, on the acre. Summer fallow is a good deal in uſe; but the culture of turnips is little attended to. The ſoil in general, being ſtrong, is not eaſily pulverized, to make it fit for that crop; beſides which, the ploughing is ſolely performed by horſes.

Rents.—The rents in general, are from 1l. 10s. to 1l. 13s. 4d. *per* acre. The valuation of the pariſh of Dumbarny, in the

the ceſs books, including the lands annexed to Dron, *quoad ſacra*, amounts to 6320l. 4s. 10d. Scotch.

Population.—The increaſe of population in this pariſh is very great. The preſent incumbent was ſettled in the year 1759.

The number of ſouls, at that time, was about -	600
In the year 1774, it roſe to - - - -	1026
And in this year, 1792, it amounts to - -	1250
Which, in the period of 33 years, is an increaſe of -	650
The increaſe, within theſe 40 years, however, is only	486
The return to Doctor Webſter, in the year 1755, being	764

This increaſe is not occaſioned by the eſtabliſhing of manufactures, as there are none in the pariſh; but is owing to a philanthropic plan, adopted by ſome of the proprietors, of letting out a conſiderable part of their lands in ſmall poſſeſſions. And there is a probability, that the pariſh may ſtill increaſe, as a village is erecting at the bridge of Earn, which, from its ſituation, promiſes in time to become conſiderable. The following is a liſt of marriages, &c. for the laſt eleven years.

List of Marriages, Baptiſms, and Burials, for eleven years:

Years.	Marriages.	Baptiſms.	Burials.
1782	6	18	13
1783	4	27	10
1784	9	34	14
1785	10	21	31
1786	6	26	14
1787	14	18	17
1788	8	23	11
1789	9	28	21
1790	14	30	8
1791	10	26	33
1792	9	24	23
	99	275	195
Annual average, - -	9	27½	19½

Church.—The church and manse were originally situated at the extremity of the parish, to the west; which being very incommodious, they were, in the year 1689, built near the bridge of Earn, and are now about the centre of the parish. The parishioners still continue to occupy the old burying ground; and none bury in the ground about the present church. There was formerly a chapel at Monerieff, and a church at Kirkpottie, both appendages of the church at Dumbarny. The former is now the burying-place of the family of Moncrieff, the latter is long since in ruins: and the estate of Kirkpottie, and other lands, belonging to the parish of Dumbarny, were, in the year 1652, annexed, *quoad sacra*, to the parish of Dron, being at a great distance from the church of Dumbarny. The Magistrates and Town Council of Edinburgh are patrons of the church, and titulars of the teinds of the parish of Dumbarny. The minister's stipend is 814 merks Scotch, in money, and the vicarage teind, 4 chalders of victual, whereof there are 40 bolls of meal, and 24 of bear, besides 40l. Scotch for communion elements.

Harmonious Settlements.—In this parish, there are comparatively few dissenters. The inhabitants have always distinguished themselves by a strong attachment to the Established Church, and by an uncommon harmony at the settlement of their ministers. This harmony has, in a great measure, proceeded from the moderation and good sense of the patrons, who have always exercised their right, in a way that was agreeable to the heritors; and they, on the other hand, have uniformly consulted the peace of the parish, in their applications to the patrons; an example to other patrons and heritors, well worthy of imitation. By such moderation, the settlement of most parishes would be peaceable; an object certainly of great consequence to the interests of religion, the benefit

nefit of landlords, the comfort of pariſhioners, and the increaſe of the funds of the poor.

School.—The ſchool-maſter has a legal ſalary of 200 merks Scotch, which, with about three quarters of an acre of land, and other emoluments, will amount to about 30l. Sterling yearly.

Pitkeathly Wells.—The mineral waters of Pitkeathly, which have long been famed for their efficacy in curing or alleviating the ſcrophula, ſcurvey, gravel, &c. are ſituated in this pariſh. This mineral is gentle in its operation, has an agreeable effect in relieving the ſtomach of crudities, procuring an appetite, and exhilarating the ſpirits; and, inſtead of weakening, tends to ſtrengthen the conſtitution. The water is of a cooling quality, and very efficacious in removing all heat and foulneſs of the blood. It is uſed both for drinking and bathing. In ſome caſes the warm bath has the moſt ſalutary effect, eſpecially in ſcrophulous and ſcorbutic complaints, but ſhould be uſed with caution, as it tends to weaken, if made too warm, or uſed too frequently. The time, when this mineral was diſcovered, cannot be aſcertained with certainty: even tradition ſays nothing of its firſt diſcovery. There are five diſtinct ſprings, all of the ſame quality, but of different degrees of ſtrength. In the year 1771, ſome experiments were made on one of the mineral ſprings, by Doctor DONALD MONRO of London, which, in 1772, together with a letter from the late Doctor Wood of Perth, on the ſame ſubject, were publiſhed in the LXII. volume of the Philoſophical Tranſactions. This year, (1792,) Meſſrs. Stoddart and Mitchel, druggiſts in Perth, have, with much attention and accuracy, analized the ſeveral ſprings. The following table, is the reſult of their repeated experiments.

A TABLE, shewing the contents, in a wine gallon, of each of the Mineral Waters, belonging to the estates of PITKEATHLY and DUMBARNY.

Names of the Waters.	Contents of the Waters. East Well.	West. Well.	Spout Well.	Dumbarny Well	S. Park Well.	
Atmospheric air, -	4	4	4	4	4	Cub. Inch.
Carbonic acid gas, -	8	8	6	5	5	Ditto.
Carbonat of lime, -	5	5½	5	5½	5	Grains.
Sulphat of lime, -	5½	5	3½	3	3	Ditto.
Muriat of soda, -	100	92	82	57	44	Ditto.
Muriat of lime, -	180	168	146	102	84	Ditto.
Specific gravity of a gallon of each more than distilled water,	216	198	172	124	98	Ditto.

NUMBER

NUMBER XXIV.

PARISH OF KILMALIE.

(Counties of Inverneſs and Argyll.—Preſbytery of Abertarph.—Synod of Glenelg.)

By the Rev. Mr. ALEXANDER FRASER, *Miniſter of that pariſh.*

Origin of the Name.

FROM the Gaelic, a branch of the Celtic language, are derived the names of places, not only among the mountains of Caledonia, but in the more campaign counties of Scotland. *Kil* ſignifies a burying place; and *Malie* muſt have been a perſon eminent for piety, or for ſome other extraordinary quality, who probably was the firſt that had been interred in that particular place, whence the pariſh receives its name. This is the more probable, as it is well known, that, wherever Popery prevailed, its partiſans were wont to dedicate their churches, and ſacred grounds, to ſome canoniſed ſaint. And, as a farther evidence, even the modern Highlanders, when their veracity is ſuſpected, will uſe the following phraſe: "*Air Malie tha*," i.e. "I ſwear, or declare, by *Malie*, that it is as I ſay."

Yet

Yet they ſeldom give themſelves the trouble to trace the origin of the expreſſion. As to the time, wherein this Malie flouriſhed, tradition is ſilent.

Situation and Extent.—A part of the pariſh lies in Argyllſhire, but the greateſt part of it is in the county of Inverneſs. Being interſected in three different places, by as many arms of the ſea, the pariſh is of an irregular form. The length, from N. W. to S. E., is about 60 miles in a ſtraight line. The greateſt breadth, from N. E. to S. W., is 30 miles in a line. It comprehends about 589 ſquare miles, or nearly 376,960 Engliſh acres, meaſuring in ſtraight lines. And, adding the ſurface of the hills and vallies, it muſt be, at leaſt, one third more. An account of ſuch an extenſive pariſh may, to the natives of the low country, appear romantic.

Surface, Soil, and Climate.—The greateſt part of the pariſh conſiſts of high grounds; and, as the heaths yield excellent graſs, it is well calculated for ſheep. There are, however, many vallies, of various extent and quality. Upon the banks of the rivers Lochy and Nevis, and in ſeveral other places, there is a good deal of arable ground, of different qualities: the ſoil, in general, is ſhallow and ſandy. The climate cannot be reckoned unwholeſome, for ſeveral have lived to an advanced age; yet the air is moiſt, for the wind blows off the ſea nearly two-thirds of the year. This accounts for the almoſt inceſſant rains which prevail; not only here, but in all other places on the Weſt Coaſt of Scotland. Here, extreme cold is never known; and it is remarkably warm cloſe to the ſhores, where ſnow ſeldom lies above 24 hours.

Diſeaſes.—To the dampneſs of the air, may, no doubt, be attributed the frequency of the rheumatiſm; which is the diſeaſe

July, are the principal months for ſalmon;—July, Auguſt, and September, for white trouts and finnacks,—November, for char,—and April, for yellow trouts. Any ſalmon, that are ſold in the pariſh, fetch 3d., and ſometimes 4d. *per* lib., and white trouts 2d. The fiſhing, upon the property of Mr. M'Lean of Ardgour, is worth 20l. annually. But the principal fiſhing is upon the Lochy, the property of the Duke of Gordon, and of Mr. Cameron of Locheile. The following table will ſhow the number of fiſh caught upon it, during the laſt 7 years, their prices at Fort-William, and the markets to which they were exported.

Years.	Salmon.	Griſe.	Price of each caſk.	Markets.
1785	3678	976	L.5 2 0	Aberdeen.
1786	2036	3899	4 13 6	Oſtend by Aberdeen.
1787	5279	819	4 1 0	Bilboa.
1788	1498	2032	3 10 0	Oſtend by Aberdeen.
1789	1260	835	3 0 0	Aberdeen.
1790	1041	830	3 0 0	Oſtend by Greenock.
1791	576	1200	3 2 6	Aberdeen.
	15368	10591	L.26 9 0	

Each caſk contains about 80 griſe, or 28 ſalmon and 8 griſe, or thereabouts. The price of each caſk, including ſalt, cooperage, &c. coſts 13s. The rent of the river, and expences attending the fiſhing, are about 370l. a-year. The average of thoſe 7 years, is 2195¾ ſalmon, and 1513 griſe, equal to 92 barrels; which, at the medium price of 3l. 16s. 8d., are worth only 352l. 13s. 4d.; whereas the rent and expences, as ſtated, are 370l. *per annum*. It is, however, to be obſerved, that it is only within theſe three laſt years, that the river has been rented ſo high; and likewiſe, that the rent of a farm, worth, at leaſt, 50l. *per annum*, is included in the 370l. Every year ſince 1787, there has been a

great decreaſe in the number of fiſh caught; which muſt proceed from ſome inattention in preſerving the ſalmon fry. The cruiving of the river, it is thought, is the chief cauſe, as the fiſh are thereby prevented from going to the freſh-water lakes to ſpawn. In all the lakes in the north of Scotland, which run to the eaſt, pikes are to be found, but in none that run to the weſtern ſea, at leaſt in the Highlands.

Coaſt.—One of the greateſt advantages of the pariſh, is the vaſt extent of ſea-ſhore it has; which, computing on both ſides of Locheile, on the north of Lochleven, and a part of both ſides of Linge-Hilloch, amounts to about 70 miles,—moſt of which is rocky and high. The lands, in ſome places, riſe gradually many yards above the level of the ſea, and are excellent paſturage for ſheep, or horſes. There is but little kelp made in the pariſh, becauſe it is moſtly the property of the landlords: and the tenants cut the ſea ware, for manuring the ground, the quantity of dung they have being inſufficient for that purpoſe. In ſome places, the tides run with amazing violence and rapidity. There are four very ſtrong currents,—at Annat, Corran, Ballachuliſh, and Culiſnagon. The lands, on both ſides of Locheile, being ſo high, occaſion frequent ſudden ſqualls, which have ſometimes proved dangerous. Several have been drowned, of late years, in the pariſh.

Sea Fiſh and Fowls.—Herrings are the fiſh that abound moſt, and that are of the greateſt benefit. They generally enter the pariſh in the month of July, and continue in ſeaſon, provided the weather does not prove very ſtormy, till November. They are not equally numerous every year. The people of Fort-William, (where the greateſt number of boats are,) reckon that a good fiſhing-ſeaſon, in which they catch about 2000 barrels: laſt year (1791) there were about 3000 caught; which

ſe that prevails moſt in the pariſh; and, ſince people have ceaſed to wear flannel ſhirts, it is become much more general. The prejudices, entertained by the inhabitants of this pariſh againſt inoculation, were, for a long time, invincible. But the better ſort, ſetting the example, the reſt gradually followed:—for we are fond to imitate our ſuperiors. Yet there are ſome who ſtill ſay, "That, to inoculate for the "ſmall-pox, is *to tempt Providence.*" In one ſeaſon, 460 were inoculated, of whom only 3 died; and their death the ſurgeon imputed to their being in a bad habit of body. Fevers of the epidemical kind are very frequent. Of late years, the dropſy is become pretty common, particularly among the poorer ſort of people. This is aſcribed to their feeding ſo much upon potatoes, which is now become a ſubſtitute for meal. The jaundice and the ſtone are almoſt unknown here: the former appears oftener, however, but the ague has never yet invaded the pariſh. The *itch*, which has been imputed, as a diſgrace, to this quarter of the iſland, is but rarely ſeen now, even among the loweſt claſſes of the people. This, doubtleſs, is owing to their living in a more cleanly manner than their forefathers. But this diſtemper is not peculiar to a Highlander,—nor to a Scotch-man. It is a *plant* which grows in countries ſouth of the Tweed, elſe there would be no word to expreſs it in the *Engliſh* tongue; and it is well known to have been one of the plagues incident to the Egyptians * †.

* Deut. xxviii. 27.

† It is a common practice for people to go hence to the low countries, in time of harveſt, and return again in the beginning of winter. Within theſe very few years, a woman of this deſcription came home, infected with a diſorder that is a diſgrace to human nature. Her father, who had been a ſtranger to the nature of her complaint, ſpoke to the incumbent about her;—and upon

Lakes and Rivers.—Loch-Archaig, which is 16 miles long, and one broad, is the only freſh-water lake, in the pariſh, of any conſequence. From it flows the River Archaig, which, after running about a mile, diſcharges itſelf into Loch-lochy. This lake is partly in the pariſh, and is the fountain of the river Lochy; which, near its ſound, joins the river of Spian, and thus loſes its name. Spian, runs through the pariſh of Kilmanivaig. Theſe lakes are very deep: there are ſome others of inferior ſize. The length of the river Lochy is about 10 miles; and the medium breadth, about 200 feet. It is fordable in many places; yet, excepting at Torecaſtle, ſmall boats are ſometimes rowed up to its fountain. It diſgorges itſelf into the ſea, near Fort-William, with ſuch rapidity and force, that it preſerves its ſtreams entire, for a long way, without any great mixture or taſte of ſalt water. No other ſtream, in the pariſh, merits the appellation of *river*. Nevis, indeed, after great falls of rain, and when the ſnow is diſſolving upon Benevis, and the ſurrounding hills, ſwells to a great height; but, in dry weather, it is no more than an inconſiderable rivulet. After performing a circuit of about 10 miles, and forcing its paſſage betwixt rocks and mountains, it ſweeps along the walls of the garriſon of Fort-William, and then reſigns its waters to the ocean.

Freſh-Water Fiſh.—In thoſe rivers, and in ſome of the lakes, there are ſalmon, finnacks, white, black, and yellow trouts. Even the leſſer lakes, in the hills, abound with fine yellow trouts; and in ſome of them there are a few *char*. May, June, and July,

his inquiring what her diſeaſe was, anſwered, "I am entirely ignorant of it;—"it is ſuch as I never heard of; neither did you, I am perſuaded.—It is ſome "*low-country diſorder*."—It cannot be denied, however, but that the army have frequently introduced this ſame *too faſhionable* diſeaſe, into Fort-William and its neighbourhood.

you ſee the ſmall iſles, particularly Rum and Canna, and the Sound that ſeparates them from Sky, and beyond all theſe, the Cullin hills, which form the weſt part of Sky itſelf. Here the proſpect to the eaſt is wholly obſtructed by the upper part of the mountain. But ſtill every part of Locheile can be eaſily obſerved, over which the whole horizon is ſurpriſingly equal. One uninterrupted range of hills, which riſe, one behind another, preſents no particular object worth diſtinguiſhing.

From the altitude of 600, or 700 yards, upward, there is no vegetation at all, but merely rocks and ſtony parts, without even a mixture of earth. Theſe parts are called *Scarnachs.*—They are quite flat, and may be walked over without any detriment:—Upon entering into them, ſome excellent ſprings of water are to be found. Here one is deceived with the appearance of a high part, which ſeems to be the top of the hill. The deception returns, and is repeated twice or thrice before you reach the ſummit, which is flat, and bears ſome reſemblance to the ſegment of an arch, held in a horizontal poſition. The left ſide appears to be the higheſt: Hence you walk, with eaſe, over the flat weather-beaten ſtones, that lie cloſe to each other, with a gentle declivity, and form an eaſy pavement to the foot.—You now come, all at once, to the brink of a precipice on the north-eaſt of the mountain, almoſt perpendicular;—certainly not leſs than 400, or 500 yards,—perhaps more, as it appears to exceed the third part of the whole height of the hill. A ſtranger is aſtoniſhed at the ſight of this dreadful rock, which has a quantity of ſnow, lodged in its boſom, through the whole year. The ſound of a ſtone, thrown over the clift, to the bottom, cannot be heard, when it falls; ſo that the height of the precipice cannot be aſcertained by that eaſy experiment.

Looking

Looking to the east, Loch-Laggan appears, and to the south-east, Loch-Rannoch in Perthshire. But Loch-Tay, being covered by the land, cannot be seen; nor Loch-Erracht. If you have a good map in company, lay it here, in a horizontal position, and, placing your eye on that part of it, where Benevis is delineated; turn it, till the natural position of Loch-Rannoch coincides with its image on the map, and you will then have before your eye a true representation of the objects in view. In this manner, you will be able to discover the names of those high mountains, which rise above the rest; viz. Crouchan Bhane, near Bunaw in Glenorchay;—Shichallion, Ben-More, and Ben-Lawers, in Perthshire, Bhillan in Glenco, Ben-More, in the island of Mull; Benuais, and other hills in Rossshire. The whole of the great glen of Scotland, from Fort-George, to the sound of Mull, is, at once, in view; comprehending the fresh water lakes of Ness, Oich, and Lochy, and all the course of the two rivers Ness and Lochy, from their source, to the place where they enter into the salt water, running in opposite directions, the one north-east, and the other south-west. The extent of view, on the horizon of the sea, is about 80 miles. One sees at once, across the island, eastward, to the German Sea, and westward, to the Atlantic Ocean.

Nature, here, appears on a majestic scale; and the vastness of the prospect engages one's whole attention. Particular objects are but few in number, and they of no common dimensions; else the eye would entirely overlook them. Such are those high mountains already enumerated; which rise with sublime aspect over the other hills. But you are instantly sensible, that none of them is elevated so high as the spot on which you stand.

Just over the opening of the sound, at the south-west corner of Mull, Colunsa rises out of the sea, like a shade of mist, at the distance of more than 90 miles. Shuna and Lismore, are

which proved a ſeaſonable relief to many indigent families. There are red cod, lythe, ſeath, ſkate, flounders, mackarels, whitings *, and a few haddocks. If the weather be moderate, lythes and ſeaths may be fiſhed every day of the year. Their prices vary, according to their ſizes, from 2d. to 5d. the dozen. They are killed with ſmall rods, and a hook, having a feather, reſembling one of the herring fry. Cod, ſkate, and flounder, are caught with long lines, and baits of herring, or of muſcles. There are a great many eels and ſturgeons. Seals, and porpoiſes, and other ſea animals, are frequently ſeen to chace the ſalmon, and whales, the herrings. Laſt harveſt, three whales appeared in Locheile, of a great ſize: one of them ſeemed to meaſure about 600 feet. The ſame ſeaſon, a ſhark, 3 years old, came aſhore. That ſpecies of ſhark, called the dog-fiſh, is very numerous.

The ſea fowls are, gulls, herons, cormorants, curlews, ducks, teals, pies, marrots, ſolon geeſe, eagles, and many others. Of the migratory kind, are the pictarnies and widgeons. The laſt appear in the latter end of harveſt, or early in winter, and take their paſſage to ſome other ſeas in ſpring. The former arrive in the beginning of May.

Hills—Are numerous in the pariſh, and moſtly clothed with rich heath, and a mixture of graſs, to the very ſummit. They are alſo of conſiderable height, but the moſt remarkable is Benevis, which is an object that attracts the attention

* Lord Lyttleton, in his journey into Wales, ſays: "But what Bala is moſt "famous for, is the beauty of its women: and, indeed, I there ſaw ſome of the "prettieſt girls, I ever beheld.—The lake produces very fine trouts, and a fiſh "called whiting, peculiar to itſelf, and of ſo delicate a taſte, that, I believe, you "would prefer the flavour of it to the lips of the fair maids of Bala." A *hungry* man might, but, ſurely, an amorous lover would not. Whether the whiting, of the lake of Bala, be the ſame with the whiting of our ſeas, is uncertain; but theſe have a ſweet flavour, and are a delicious morſel.

attention of all curious travellers. Being the highest mountain in Great Britain, it certainly deserves a particular description.

Benevis.—This mountain is 4370 feet high.—It is easily ascended, by a ridge of the mountain, towards the west, about a quarter of a mile up the river Nevis, from the house where the proprietor resides. There is good pasture for sheep, here, as well as on the surrounding hills, for a great way up. The view is entirely confined within Glenevis hill, till you have got up about 500 yards perpendicular. Indeed, the valley, though confined, presents an agreeable prospect. The Vista is beautified with a diversity of bushes, shrubs, and birch woods, the seats of roes and deer, besides many lovely spots of green; a decent, neat, rural mansion, encircled by a young flourishing plantation; a river at the bottom of the vale, which, after being broken by a heap of mis-shapen stones, glides away in a clear stream; and, wandering through woods, vales, and rocks, loses itself in the sea. To heighten the pleasure of the charming view, the sea and the shores present themselves. This is such a prospect, as must expand the heart, and delight the spectator, attached to the charms of nature, and to rural scenes; and recal to mind the days of old, when princes and princesses are said to have tended their herds and flocks, amidst the beauties of Arcadia.

Upon ascending above this height, the prospect opens, and enlarges, to the south-west, and you behold the Strait of Corran, the islands of Shuna and Lismore; the south-east part of Mull, together with the islands of Suile and Kerrera, on the opposite coast of Argyll. At this altitude, two elevated hills make their appearance over these isles; which, by their shape, declare themselves to be *the Paps of Jura.* Turning to the west, and inclining a little towards the north,

you

are like ſmall ſpots of rich verdure; and, though diſtant, near 30 miles, ſeem quite near, and under the beholder. The low parts of Jura, cannot be diſcerned, nor any part of Iſla; far leſs, the coaſt of Ireland, which ſome have pretended to ſee from the top of Benevis. Such, however, is the wide extent of view, from the ſummit of this mountain, that it reaches 170 miles, from the horizon of the ſea, at the Murray Frith, on the north eaſt, to the iſland of Colunſa, on the ſouth weſt. Could one paſs a night, in October, on the ſummit of Benevis, it is probable, that he would diſcover the heavenly bodies in greater ſplendour, than upon Mount Blanc itſelf. The latter, it is true, is much higher; but the the former, is in a colder climate, and conſequently, when fair, in a leſs ſhaded ſky.

The high hills on each ſide of the lakes and rivers, mentioned above, opening like huge walls, or ramparts, on each hand, yield a curious variety of agreeable wild proſpects; the vaſt windings whereof make the ſeveral turnings of the mountains rather diverſify the ſcene, than obſtruct the eye. Their extremities, declining gradually from their ſeveral ſummits, open into vallies, where one has variegated views of woods, rivers, plains, and lakes. The torrents of water, which, here and there, tumble down the precipices, and, in many places, break through the cracks and cliffs of the rocks, arreſt the eye, and ſuſpend the mind, in awful aſtoniſhment. In a word, the number, the extent, and the variety of the ſeveral proſpects,—the irregular wildneſs of the hills, of the rocks, and of the precipices,—the noiſe of rivulets, and of torrents, breaking and foaming among the ſtones, in ſuch a diverſity of ſhapes and colours,—the ſhining ſmoothneſs of the ſeas, and of the lakes,—the rapidity, and rumbling of the rivers, falling from ſhelve to ſhelve, and forcing their ſtreams through a multitude of obſtructions,—the ſerenity of the

azure skies, and the splendour of the glorious sun, riding in the brightness of his majesty—have something so charmingly wild and romantic, and so congenial to the contemplative mind, as surpasses all description, and presents a scene, of which the most fervid imagination can scarcely form an idea.

The traveller, who is so callous, as to behold all this, and not feel the greatness and majesty of the ALMIGHTY ARCHITECT impressed upon his heart, must, indeed, be strangely void of sense, of taste, and of sentiment. It affords a lesson, worthy of travelling up the mountain to learn. Benevis, and the surrounding mountains, do, indeed, strongly excite the idea of Burnet, of their being the fragments of a once demolished world.—Few can perform a journey to the top of Benevis, and make proper observations, going and returning, in less than 7 hours; and still fewer, without feeling, in their limbs, the effects of the fatigue, for a day or two after.

Minerals.—There is no coal mine in the parish; but a vein of lead ore has been lately discovered, upon the west side of Benevis, running east and west, cross a burn, in the heart of a solid rock of fine red granite, with a slope outwards, as it descends; and, but for this slope, in a vertical position. It is four or five inches thick; composed of about one third of ore, and the rest, of white marcasite, with a mixture of sulphur; and seems to grow thicker, and richer, as it descends. The access is not difficult; and the perpendicular height, about 300 yards from the bottom of the valley. Two other parallel narrow veins, are to be seen a few yards lower down. Though a trial could be easily made, none has, as yet, been attempted. But, no doubt, Mr. Cameron of Glenevis, the proprietor of this mountain, so famous among Scottish hills, will be induced, by the promising appearance, to make a trial. At Inverscaddle, belonging to Mr. Cameron of Fassfern, there is another vein, of the same kind, which has been tried, but not so

ſo far, as to aſcertain its value. That theſe veins are good, and worth working, is highly probable, as they run in a line, eaſt and weſt, with thoſe at Strontian.

There is abundance of limeſtone in the pariſh; and, at Ballachuliſh *, belonging to Mr. Cameron of Locheile, there is a fine appearance of a ſlate quarry, cloſe to the ſhore of Loch-leven, which there forms a pretty baſon, where a quay could

* "Near the farm houſes," of Ballachuliſh, "there is a limeſtone, or marble "rock, of a beautiful aſhen grey colour, and of a fine regular uniform grain, or "texture; capable of being raiſed in blocks, or ſlabs, of any ſize, and capable of "receiving a fine poliſh. This ſingular rock, is finely ſprinkled throughout, "with grains and ſpecks of fine bright mundick, or pyrites; and likewiſe, with "grains and ſpecks of beautiful lead ore, of a fine texture, which, to the eye, ap-"pears to be rich in ſilver. This would make a bright and beautiful metallic "marble.

"In the farm of Blarmachfhuildaich, belonging to the Duke of Gordon, "about 3 miles ſouth of Fort-William, in the bed of a river, there is a very ſin-"gular marble, conſiſting of a black ground, and flowered with white. This "ſtone, is of a fine cloſe grain, or uniform texture, but not very hard; and the "flowering in it is light, elegant, and beautiful, like fine needle-work; or rather, "reſembling the froſty fret-work, upon glaſs windows, in a winter morning; "and this flowering, is not only upon the outſide, but quite through all parts "of the body of the ſtone.

"A great part of the hill of Benevis, is compoſed of porphyry. It is a re-"markably fine, beautiful, and elegant ſtone, of a rediſh caſt, in which the pale "roſe, the bluſh, and the yellowiſh white colours, are finely blended, and "ſhaded, through the body of the ſtone, which is of a jelly-like texture, and is, "undoubtedly, one of the fineſt, and moſt elegant, ſtones in the world. About "three fourths of the way up this hill, upon the north weſt ſide, there is found "a porphyry, of a greeniſh colour, with a tinge of a browniſh red. This ſtone "is ſmooth, compact, hard, and heavy, of a cloſe uniform texture, but of no "brightneſs, when broken. It is ſpotted with angular ſpecks, of a white quartzy "ſubſtance.

"The elegant rediſh granite, of Benevis, is, perhaps, the beſt, and moſt "beautiful in the world; and there is enough of it, to ſerve all the kingdoms of "the univerſe, though they were all as fond of granite, as ancient Egypt *."

* *See Williams's Natural Hiſtory of the Mineral Kingdom.*

be easily built.—There is a rock, of an excellent reddish granite, in the farm of Sallachan, belonging to Captain M'Lean of Ardgour, which will admit of a fine polish. What a pity it is, that such sums of money, should be sent every year to foreign kingdoms for marble, when our own country abounds with all kinds of stones, of the very best quality, necessary for ornamental architecture?

Echoes.—There is an echo at the Esplanade of Fort-William, near the place where the brewhouse stands, and another, in the face of the hill of Succoth, immediately behind Ardgour-house. There are probably several more in the parish.

Caves.—In the face of a very steep rock, near Ballachulish, there is a cave, but so difficult of access, that there is no person living, at present, in the parish, who has ventured to explore it*. A description of it, consequently, cannot be given. About 8 miles up the river Nevis, there is another remarkable cave, known by the name of "*Uaigh-'t 'Hoirle*," or *Samuel's Cave*; that being the patronymic of the family of Glenevis. This cave is in the heart of a rock, which appears to be about 70 feet high, and nearly as broad, leaning to the side of a mount, south of the river, and not far distant from it. It is of difficult access, having, quite close to the entrance, a perpendicular rock, 30 or 40 feet high. The cave appears to

* It is not a great number of years, however, since a man, who had been obliged to skulk for his crimes, made it his place of abode and refuge, for the space of about 3 years. During day light, he kept within his cell; but, as soon as the darkness of the night favoured him, he issued forth from his strong hold, in quest of provisions. While he continued thus cautious, he was secure; but, at last, growing confident, he ventured to sally out in the day time. In one of these predatory excursions, he was apprehended, and compelled to do justice to the laws of his country.

to be formed, by one part of the rock leaning to the other, and forming, between them, an arched, irregular, ſhapeleſs, kind of grotto, from 6 to 12 or 14 feet high. It is 30 feet long, and 11 broad. The floor is very uneven, ſloping from the mouth all the way. There are 3 diviſions in it; the largeſt of which, would afford ſhelter for about 30 people. At its extremity, there are two other paſſages, leading farther into the rock; both are quite dark. Theſe apertures conduct, through the body of the rock, to other receſſes; but ſuch is their dark, and hideous appearance, that few can be prevailed on to enter them. One of theſe paſſages, opens at the extremity of the large apartment, and is lined with a ſhelving precipitate rock, that goes about 10 feet downwards, and effectually deters moſt of the viſitants from proceeding any farther;—the other paſſage is nearly over it, at the roof of the vault, to which one may eaſily aſcend, by the help of a ſloping part of the rock. The earth, on the floor of the cave, and the drops oozing through the crevices, occaſion a perpetual dampneſs, and diſagreeable ſmell. It is the frightful habitation of darkneſs;—an abode, fit to be inhabited only by the ſons of deſpair,—being one of thoſe howling caverns, where the ſubterraneous winds blow. Hither, however, ſome retreated for ſafety, in the year 1746,—and here they, for ſome time, lived ſecure *. The mouth of the cave is not above 3½ feet high, and is pretty much concealed by its ſituation. The largeneſs

* There is a tradition among the vulgar, that a piper went once into this cave, and that the noiſe of his muſic was heard, under ground, at a place called Kinloch, diſtant, from the entrance of the cave, no leſs than 10 miles. The tune he played was, "*Oh! that I had three hands! two for the bagpipe, and one for the ſword!*" ſignifying that he had been attacked by ſubterranean foes. Other pariſhes will, no doubt, claim right to this unfortunate piper, who forgot to bring a clew with him, to guide him back through the labyrinth. This ſtory deſerves the ſame credit, with thoſe of many other traditionary tales, of the fabulous bards.

largeneſs of the rock, however, where it is, and ſome fir trees on its top, will lead to a diſcovery of it.

Caſcades.—Juſt oppoſite to the rock, where the laſt mentioned cave is, on the other ſide of the river, there is a moſt beautiful caſcade, falling down, by a gradual ſlope, from Benevis, upwards of half a mile before it reaches the bottom of the valley, where it unites its ſtreams with thoſe of the Nevis. The appearance of this ſheet of water, immediately attracts one's attention, dilates the heart, and kindles, in the mind, thoſe lofty and grand ſentiments of devotion, and thoſe pleaſing elevated feelings, which the ſublime ſound of a caſcade, or the war of many waters, naturally excite. The windings of the river,—the verdure of the trees,—the wildneſs of the rocks,—the terrific aſpect of the hills,—the miſt, flying ſwiftly on their tops,—the clouds, rolling along with velocity,—the lonely ſituation, remote from human eye,—every thing conſpires to make this fall of water, one of the grandeſt objects in nature. It even excels the famous *Fall of Foyers*, which cannot be beheld with ſo much complacency. It is, indeed, awful and ſublime; but has too much of the *terrible* in its appearance.—About two miles further up the river Nevis, there is another caſcade, which, after forcing its way through hills and rocks, has a fall of, at leaſt, 500 feet perpendicular. It is on the ſame ſide of the river with the cave. This pariſh, as may naturally be expected, from the number of hills in it, abounds with caſcades, that compoſe a beautiful and pictureſque ſcenery.

Woods.—There can be little doubt, but that the greateſt part of the pariſh was once over-run with wood. At preſent, it is ſaid, there are about 14,000 acres under it. The moſt conſiderable, and the moſt valuable plantation, belongs to Mr. Cameron of Locheile,

Locheile, who has upwards of 6,000 acres under birch and fir, intermingled, and 4,000 acres more, under oak and other timber. On the property of Capt. M'Lean of Ardgour, there are about 1,000 acres of firs, oak, and other ſpecies of trees. Theſe woods, in many places, would be very valuable. Here, however, they are not, being far from the ſhore, and the roads to them extremely bad. To purchaſe imported timber, therefore, is found to be cheaper; at leaſt, it is preferred. The trees, that grow naturally, are oak, fir, birch, aſh, mountain-aſh, holly, elm, wild geen, hazle, and the Scotch poplar. Thoſe planted are, larix, ſpruce, ſilver fir, beech, plane, and fruit trees.

Wild Quadrupeds and Birds.—The quadrupeds are, deer and roes,—hares, as large as thoſe in the low countries of Scotland, but not ſo ſwift,—weaſels, polecats, badgers, and foxes, of two kinds: theſe laſt, are moſtly extirpated, ſince the introduction of ſheep.—The birds are, eagles, of three different kinds, hawks, kites, ravens, crows, and rooks. There are heathcocks, ptarmachans, and partridges; but they are decreaſing annually, as their eggs are trampled upon, and broke by the ſheep. There are alſo ſnipes, and plovers, with all ſorts of poultry; and a great variety of ſmall birds, of the muſical kind, ſuch as the roſe, the heath, and the rock-linnet,—the chaff, the bull, and the goldfinch,—the ſky-lark, the thruſh, the robin-redbreaſt, &c.—The migratory birds are, woodcocks, which appear in October, and go away in March,—and cuckoos, ſwallows, martins, ſwifts, and ſtonechatters, which arrive in April, and depart in Auguſt, September, and October.

Cattle.—At preſent, there are in the pariſh, according to the exacteſt calculation that could be made, about 6,000 head of

of black cattle, 500 horſes, 1,000 goats, and 60,000 ſheep. Before the mode of ſheep-farming was introduced, a great number of horſes were reared for ſale. They were well ſhaped, hardy, and high mettled. Good ones now ſell at from 8l. to 20l. Owing to their decreaſing in number every ſeaſon, they have advanced in price conſiderably, of late years. They are uſed in ploughing, harrowing, leading home peats, and carrying manure to the fields. Four of them, are yoked a-breaſt in the plough; and a man, who leads them, ſtands immediately before them, and walks backward, facing the ploughman. This, ſurely, is very aukward! The gentlemen in the pariſh, however, yoke but two horſes in the plough; and the one who holds it, manages alſo the reins. Three different kinds of ploughs are uſed.—The ſheep were firſt introduced, into the pariſh, in the year 1764. They have ſince increaſed ſo much, that about three fourths of the country are occupied by them. Wherever they are, there is not above the 1300dth acre in tillage. Hence the quantity of hill ground may be conceived. But, indeed, the vallies are moſtly paſture walks, for the winter and ſpring retreat of the ſheep, as well as of the black cattle.—All the hills, below the perpendicular altitude of 600 yards, are lined with beautiful, ſoft, and rich heath; but, above that height, they are moſtly barren. There is no common in the pariſh.

Produce, Cultivation, &c.—Oats, barley, and potatoes, are the principal crops. The climate and ſoil here are ill calculated for rearing grain. In the beſt ſeaſon, the crop is precarious, and hardly equivalent to the expences incurred. Potatoes, which are moſtly planted in drills, anſwer remarkably well; and turnips, it is believed, would turn to good account, particularly to the ſheep farmer. Hitherto, however, little attention has been beſtowed upon them. Oats are ſown during

during the two laſt weeks of March; barley, and potatoes, in the end of April, and beginning of May. Barley is reaped in the end of Auguſt; oats, from the beginning of September to October, and potatoes, about the end of September.

The following is the average number of Engliſh acres, under the different ſorts of grain, on each of the ſheep farms:

	13	acres are under 12 bolls of oats.
	4	——— under 3 bolls of barley.
	10	——— under 14 bolls of potatoes.
Total,	27	acres in tillage.
	34,973	acres in ſheep paſture.
In all,	35,000	acres; being 16 miles by 3 and two fifths.

In farms of leſs extent, there is a ſmaller proportion accordingly. Indeed, thoſe proportions are equal to a medium of 4 ordinary ſheep farms in the pariſh, or to 8, according to former diviſions. In farms, where there are black cattle ſtocks, there are nearly 4 times this proportion of ground in culture. The paſture grounds, including ſheallings, do not rent at above 4d. *per* acre annually. The returns, upon an average, are, of oats, 3 from 1, of barley, 5, and of potatoes, 10. There is no hemp, and very little flax ſeed, ſown in the pariſh. The vallies and meadows yielding ſpontaneouſly plenty of excellent graſs: there is but little clover, or rye graſs ſown. The gardens yield the ordinary vegetables.

Imports and Exports.—The articles imported are, meal, flour, oats, butter, cheeſe, whiſky, foreign ſpirits, ſalt, timber, tar, and all kinds of mercantile goods. There were entered inwards, in the year 1791, at the port of Fort-William, coaſtwiſe, 8,000 bolls of oatmeal; which, at the average price of 16s. 8d. *per* boll, is 6666l. 13s. 4d. But only about 2500

bolls were uſed in the pariſh, the reſt being ſold to other countries: 2500 bolls, at the above price, come to 2083l. 6s. 8d. We may ſafely ſay, that the pariſh pays at leaſt, that ſum for meal every year; for ſeldom, very ſeldom, it is, that it ſells ſo reaſonably, as is above ſtated. Of whiſky, there are annually imported into the pariſh, and drunk in it, about 15,000 gallons, which, at 4s. each gallon, coſts 3,000l. The exports are, fiſh, wool, ſheep, horſes, and black cattle. During the ſummer and harveſt 1791, there were taken, by the people of the pariſh, about 3,000 barrels of herrings, which, at 18s. *per* barrel, is 2700 l.

ACCOUNT of Wool ſent coaſtwiſe, from the port of Fort-William, for 3 years preceding the 5th day of January 1792.

	cwt.	*qrs.*	*lbs.*
From 5th January 1789, to 5th January 1790, - -	2737	3	24
From 5th January 1790, to 5th January 1791, - -	2653	2	8
From 5th January 1791, to 5th January 1792, - -	3593	2	1
In all,	8985	0	5

Or, 41,930 ſtones, at 24 lbs. Engliſh to each ſtone. Two thirds of the wool are white, and one third is tarred.

Stones.	*lbs.*		*L.*	*s.*	*d.*
27,953	8, at 7s. 6d. *per* ſtone, amount to - - -		10482	10	0
13,976	16, at 5s. 6d. *per* ſtone, amount to - - -		3843	11	8
41930	0 Total of wool exported in 3 years,		14326	1	8
The annual average produce of wool, exported from Fort-William, is therefore - - - - -			4775	7	2⅔

The greateſt part of the above wool, was ſent coaſtwiſe to Liverpool, and other ports in England. Let it be obſerved, however, that it includes much more than the produce of this pariſh, in which there are only 60,000 ſheep. Something more

more than 6 fleeces generally go to each ſtone, which is equal to about 10,000 ſtones.

Stones.	*lbs.*		£.	*s.*	*d.*
6666	14, at 7s. 6d. *per* ſtone, come to	- -	2499	19	4½
3333	10, at 5s. 6d. *per* ſtone, come to	- -	916	13	9½
10000	0 Total annual produce of the wool of this pariſh,		3416	13	2

Population.—The introduction of ſheep, it is obvious, has a tendency to diminiſh the number of inhabitants in particular diſtricts *. In this pariſh, however, from the operation of peculiar circumſtances, the population has increaſed conſiderably, and is ſtill on the increaſe. It is not eaſy, *now*, to determine the exact proportion of people that remain, compared with thoſe who have been obliged to remove. From a medium ſtatement of ſeveral farms, in different ſituations, they appear to have been nearly three times as populous, as they are at preſent. But one fourth of the pariſh is ſtill under black cattle, and contains as great a number of people as

* There is an abſolute neceſſity of preſerving the graſs, during ſummer and harveſt, upon the low grounds, for the uſe of the ſheep in winter and ſpring;—for, otherwiſe, they run a riſk of periſhing. This could not be done, were the ſame number of people, as formerly, to live there, and to cultivate lands for their own ſubſiſtence. Beſides, the number of cows and horſes, they would require, would entirely conſume the graſs. Proprietors, it is ſaid, have made repeated trials of letting their lands, among the former tenants, jointly, provided they would ſtock them with ſheep, and agree among themſelves, with regard to their reſpective ſhares. But every inſtance of this kind, has proved unſucceſsful in the end. And, indeed, it is almoſt impoſſible, that a multitude of people can agree in managing a joint ſtock of ſheep, and bringing the produce to market. Schemes of this kind, conſequently, how plauſible ſoever they may ſeem in theory, will ever fail of ſucceſs in practice; and experience has demonſtrated the abſurdity of ſuch an attempt. The fact is, that ſheep farms cannot be let with prudence, or advantage, to a number of tenants; and the introduction of ſheep muſt, of courſe, diminiſh the number of tenants in particular diſtricts.

ever. And of thoſe, who have been diſpoſſeſſed, very few have quitted the pariſh. They go and reſide in Maryburgh; as ſeveral alſo do from other neighbouring pariſhes; which accounts for the increaſing populouſneſs of that village. Beſides which, the women, in general, are very prolific, frequently bringing forth twins; and, in September laſt, (1792), two women were delivered of 3 children each at a birth. Every marriage commonly produces from 5 to 7 children. For ſeveral reaſons, it is almoſt impoſſible to keep an exact and a complete regiſter of baptiſms and marriages, in ſo extenſive a pariſh as this. Unleſs the clergyman, at the time of celebrating theſe ordinances, write down, in a memorandum book, the names of the parties, and tranſmit them afterwards to the ſeſſion clerk, they will never be regiſtered; for the parties themſelves either neglect, or diſregard to do it. Beſides, it is believed, that the Papiſts and Epiſcopalians keep a ſeparate regiſter of their own births and marriages. And, of deaths, no regiſter has ever yet been attempted to be kept in the pariſh. By the moſt exact calculation, the number of ſouls is - - - - 4225

The return to Dr. Webſter, in 1755, was - - 3093

Increaſe, - - - - - 1132

The inhabitants, in the garriſon, however, being included in the above number, and not enumerated in the return to Dr. Webſter, muſt be deducted } 194

Exact increaſe in 37 years, - - - 938

Of the above number, about 1200 live in Maryburgh and Fort-William; and of theſe there are

Merchants,

Merchants,			2		Brought over,		131
Shop-keepers,			9	Fidlers,			2
Carpenters,			11	Barber,			1
Ship-wright,			1	Dyer,			1
Boat-wrights,			3	Surgeons,			3
Wheel-wrights,			3	Comptroller,			1
Cart-wrights,			2	Surveyor,			1
Coopers,			2	Tide-waiters,			2
Sawers,			6	Excise-men,			2
Masons*,			26	School-masters,			2
Taylors,			12	Attorneys,			4
Weavers,			24	Farmers,			10
Shoe-makers,			18	Gardeners,			4
Smiths,			3	Inn-keepers,			2
Nailers,			3	Mantuamakers,			5
Butchers,			3	Seamstresses,			4
Bakers,			3				
	Carry over,		131		In all,		175

There are 13 old people living, at present, in Maryburgh, at the following ages:

6 aged 84 years of age.
1 —— 88 ——
3 —— 97 ——
2 —— 98 ——
1 —— 104 ——

Died in the parish,

15 years ago, 1 aged 107 years of age.
11 —— 1 —— 109 ——
4 —— 1 —— 102 ——
And last year, 1 —— 103 ——

Language.

* Good masons, brick-layers, and carpenters, get 1s. 8d. *per* day. A taylor, and brogue-maker, who goes about for work, receives 10d. a-day, besides victuals, and a common labourer, 1s. But, for this last class, there is not constant work throughout the year; and what he earns, depends upon his own diligence. Where there is not constant work, the rates for day-labourers cannot be fixed; and, of course, it is impossible to ascertain any determinate income, or any certain expence.

Language.—The Gaelic is the mother tongue of the natives; and, it is thought, that in this, and ſome neighbouring pariſhes, it is ſpoken in its greateſt purity. Though the Gaelic be the original language, there are very few people, eſpecially of the younger claſs, who do not underſtand and ſpeak Engliſh. It is remarkable, yet not the leſs true, that the illiterate Highlander, who is a ſtranger to every other language but the Gaelic, ſpeaks it more fluently, more elegantly, and more purely, than the ſcholar *.

Village.—*Maryburgh*, or *Gordonſburgh*, is the only one of note in the pariſh, and is ſituated upon the ſea ſhore, ſouth ſide of Locheile, within a few yards to the ſouth-weſt of Fort-Willam. Anciently, the place where it ſtands, was called *Auchintore-beg*. The village was then built on the ground where the Eſplanade is now. It was after the acceſſion of the Prince of Orange to the Britiſh throne, that it obtained the name of Maryburgh, in honour of his royal conſort. For ſome time paſt, it has been indiſcriminately called Maryburgh and Gordonſburgh, from the family of Gordon, whoſe property

* The name of almoſt every place in Caledonia, is derived from the Gaelic; ſo that it is unneceſſary to enumerate many inſtances. *Corpach*, a place cloſe to the ſhore, on an angle of Locheile, is a compound, ſignifying the *field of corpſes*. It is well known, that men of note were anciently interred in Iona. Such as were brought from the north of this pariſh, were kept in ſtate at Corpach for a night, or perhaps longer. Hence the original of the name. *Ochinich* is another place upon the ſhore of Lochleven, where the dead, brought from Perthſhire, were embarked for the conſecrated ground of Iona, and means *a groan*, or deep conflicting ſigh of lamentation. Perhaps women were hired to ſet up the *Corsnach*. *Lochaber*, or *Loch-nu-capper*, ſignifies the *Lake of Horns*. Indeed it deſerves not the name of lake, being a ſmall pool in the moſs of Corpach. The tradition is, that the deer, in the routing ſeaſon, fought about this lake, and loſt their horns. Hence the whole country has received its name.

perty it is. It is in a thriving way, and with their countenance and patronage, is likely to become a diſtinguiſhed place.

Fort-William—Stands upon the ſouth ſide of a ſmall gulph of that arm of the ſea, called Locheile; where, by the turn of the mountains, it forms itſelf into an angle, and receives the rivers Lochy and Nevis. It is ſituated upon a plain, almoſt level with the ſea. Upon the oppoſite ſhore, there is another of a much larger extent, upon the ſame level, which widens, and exceedingly beautifies the proſpect. Theſe plains are ſurrounded with mountains, which were once covered with woods, and are watered with many ſprings and rivulets.

The fort was firſt built during the uſurpation of *Oliver Cromwell*, by the advice and direction of Monk. It occupied more ground at that time than it does now, and conſiſted of 2,000 effective troops. Colonel Braym was the firſt, I believe, who was appointed governor. The fort was then diſtinguiſhed by the name of the "Garriſon of Inverlochy."—In the time of King William, it was rebuilt, on a leſs ſcale, with ſtone and lime. In the year 1746, it ſtood a ſiege of 5 weeks, which commenced 24th February, and was raiſed 3d April following, with the loſs only of 6 men killed, and 24 wounded *. The fort is, by no means, a place of ſtrength. For theſe two years paſt, all the men in it have been only a company of invalids. Beſides, ſome years ago, about a fourth part of the wall was undermined, and ſwept away by the river Nevis: It has ever ſince been faſt going to ruin, and there appears not the moſt diſtant proſpect of its being repaired. General James Murray is the preſent governor of the fort; Lord Forbes is deputy-governor; and Captain

* A journal of the ſiege, had been kept by one of the officers in the garriſon, a copy of which is in the poſſeſſion of the writer hereof.

Captain Thomas Cochrane, commanding officer. A post-office was established at Fort-William in the year 1764.—There is a mason-lodge; and a jail, in which there have been, in all, since 1781, for various crimes, 48 prisoners, many of them for trivial offences.

Rent and Proprietors.—The valued rent of the parish, is 434l. 14s. 4d. Ster.; the real gross rent, about 5200l.; the lands, rent at 4723 l. 8 s. 11 d.; the salmon fishing, upon the river Lochy, rents at about 230 l.; still water fishing, at 27 l.; houses rent at about 200 l. The following table shows the proprietors in the parish *; their rental, valued and real; and the superiors of whom they hold their lands. The three last reside in it.

	Valuations.			*Real Rents.*			*Superiors.*
Mr. Cameron of Locheile,	L. 250	0	0	L. 1500	0	0	Dukes of Argyll and Gordon.
Mr. M'Lean of Ardgour §,	78	11	1	1663	8	11	Duke of Argyll and Crown §.
Duke of Gordon,	34	8	10	300	0	0	Crown.
Mr. Cameron of Glenevis,	30	16	8	500	0	0	Duke of Gordon.
Mr. Cameron of Fassfern	30	5	6	660	0	0	Dukes of Gordon and Argyll.
Mr. Cameron of Kinlochleven,	10	12	3	100	0	0	Duke of Gordon.
	L. 434	14	4	L. 4723	8	11	

Improved Value of Land.—Since the year 1764, when sheep were first introduced into the parish, the value of land has augmented considerably;—in general, to triple what it then was. Farms, under long leases, must be excepted. Of these there are only a few, which were granted by the commissioners upon the annexed estates. Where there are but short leases

* Changes of property are not frequent; not above three instances having occurred within these 150 years.

§ Ardgour does not hold so much of the Crown, as intitles him to a vote.

leaſes granted by landlords, improvements will advance very ſlowly. There are ſome lands in the pariſh, which are eſteemed high rented.—The great augmentation of rents muſt be attributed, principally, to the mode adopted, of ſtocking farms with ſheep. They require a ſmaller number of hands to tend them, than black cattle; can graze in places where theſe would not venture, and yield a greater produce. This, it will be acknowledged, is a ſtrong temptation to proprietors, who value *money* more than *men*, to encourage ſheep-farming *.—There are 93 farms in the pariſh: The average extent of each, is 6¼ ſquare miles; and the average annual rent, about 50 l. Sterling. Of theſe 93 farms, 54 belong to Locheile, and 18 to Ardgour;—and of theſe laſt 18, 2 farms rent at 100 l. each; 2 at 260 l. each; and one at 340 l. The loweſt at 30 l.

Churches, &c.—There are 9 places of worſhip in the pariſh. Beſides the eſtabliſhed miniſter, there is a miſſionary, appointed by the committee for managing his Majeſty's royal bounty, who reſides at Fort-William, and another, who officiates in the pariſh once a month. The miniſter of a miſſion, in ſome neighbouring pariſhes, alſo reſides in Kilmalie, beſides a preacher of the goſpel. Once a month, a Popiſh and a Non-juring clergyman, preach within the bounds of the pariſh.

* A periodical writer has propoſed to mingle corn and ſheep farms together, in ſuch proportions, that the latter may purchaſe the fruits of the former. The adoption of this ſcheme, he thinks, would prevent emigration. In the ſouth of Scotland, ſuch a plan might anſwer; but, in this pariſh, it is totally impracticable. For what is the land in tillage, compared to the hill grounds? The vallies could eaſily be cultivated, but what would then become of the graſs upon the hills? There, the ſheep graze all ſummer and harveſt, but muſt be brought to the ſtraths to feed during winter and ſpring; and, conſequently, very little crop can be reared. The bulk of the people, therefore, muſt remove, either to towns or villages in the neighbourhood, or out of the country.

The number of members of the Eſtabliſhed Church, is 3715, —of Papiſts, 103,—and of Nonjurors, 407. It is not long, ſince the number of Papiſts amounted only to 35. The increaſe is owing to their flocking into Maryburgh, from the neighbouring countries, when diſpoſſeſſed of their lands.— Until the year 1779, the living was worth no more than 52 l. 10 s. Sterling annually; neither was there any allowance made for communion elements; and even yet, it is only 69 l. 10 s., and 3 l. 6 s. 8 d. for communion elements. There is no manſe. The heritors allow, in place thereof, and for deficiency of glebe, the ſum of 11 l. 13 s. 4 d. An excellent pariſh church was built, in the year 1783, which coſt 440 l.; and, laſt year, another was built, in Maryburgh, by the Duke of Gordon and the inhabitants, that coſt ſomewhat more. The Duke of Argyll has always been reckoned the patron of the pariſh; but, it is ſaid, that he has made over his right of patronage to Locheile, with whom the Duke of Gordon diſputes it. Principal Campbell, of the Univerſity of Glaſgow, was predeceſſor to the preſent incumbent.

Schools.—The parochial ſchool is at Fort-William; which, if not the moſt centrical place, is at leaſt the moſt populous in the pariſh. Here, the languages and mathematics are taught. The number of the ſcholars, attending, is about 150. The ſalary is 16 l. 13 s. 4 d.; which, with the ſchool fees, ſeſſion-clerk's ſalary, and the dues for chriſtenings and marriages, will be equal to about 90 l., or 100 l. Sterling annually. Beſides this ſchool, there are 5 others, on the eſtabliſhment of the Society for propagating Chriſtian Knowledge. To one of theſe, they grant a ſalary of 22 l., and to the reſt 12 l. each. There is alſo a catechiſt, employed between this and Kilmanivaig pariſh, with a ſalary of 12 l. Sterling.

Poor.—The poor of this parish wander about, and beg from door to door, to the grave: For the funds, appropriated to their use, are very inadequate to their necessities, being the Sunday collections, which may amount to something better than 20 l. a-year; and the interest of 18 l., being donations made, at different times, by the following persons, *viz.*

Alexander Cameron, tacksman of Strone,	L.	10	0 0
Dugald Cameron, tenant at Stronlie,		3	0 0
James M'Cawl, tenant at Drumerbine,		3	0 0
John Cameron, tenant at Clachaig,		1	10 0
John M'Phee, tenant at Glendessary,		0	10 0
	L.	18	0 0

Last year Major Cameron, of Erract, sent to the writer of this article 20 l. Sterling, for the immediate relief of the poor; and he has since distributed among them upwards of 20 l. more himself. There are no stated times for dividing the poor's money; and some are relieved oftener than others. If any are reduced to poverty by accident, disease, or calamity, there is an extraordinary collection made for their relief.

Comparative View

Of the Prices of Provisions, &c. in the years 1771 *and* 1791.

1771.	1791.
Beef and mutton, *per* lib. 1½d.	Beef and mutton, 2½d. or 3d.
A goose, 1s. 2d.	A goose, from 2s. 6d. to 3s. 6d.
A hen, from 2d. to 3d.	A Hen, 6d. to 8d.
Butter, *per* lib. 4d.	Butter, 8d.
Cheese, *per* stone 2s. 6d.	Cheese, 6d.
Salmon, *per* lib. 1d.	Salmon, 3d. to 4d.
Eggs, *per* dozen, 1d.	Eggs, 2d. to 3d.
Potatoes, *per* peck, (scarce), 6d.	Potatoes, 7d. to 9d.
Barley, *per* boll. 16s.	Barley, 1l. 1s.
Oats, *per* boll, 10s.	Oats, 13s. 4d. to 15s.
Coals, *per* ton, 18s.	Coals, 18s. to 1l.
A boat load of peats, 4s. 6d.	A boat load of peats, 9s. to 12s.
Pork, *per* lib. 2d.	Pork, 3d.
	A pig, 1l. to 2l.
	A duck, 1s.
	A goat, 5s. 6d. to 7s. 6d.
	A calf, 2s. 6d. to 5s.

Antiquities.—Upon the banks of the river Lochy, on the north side, about 4 miles above Fort-William, there are the remains of an ancient castle, concerning which the M. S. history of the house of Locheile says, "that it was built by the "chief of that family, in the reign of Queen Mary." The probability is, however, that it is of a much more ancient date; and the tradition of the country is, that it was built at the same time with the castle of Inverness. An additional probability, of its being built long before the reign of the unfortunate Mary, is, that *Bancho*, Thane of *Lochaber*, (the ancestor of the royal house of Stewart), had his castle in this neighbourhood; and,

and, a little below the ſite of Torecaſtle, there is a moſt beautiful walk, about a quarter of a mile long, that ſtill retains his name. Along this ſweet walk, on the one hand, flows the Lochy; on the other, there is a delightful bank, which is at preſent planted with fir, and which was then, undoubtedly, covered, with ſtately wood. There is ſtill remaining, of this building, a wall of 40 or 50 feet, and a vault, almoſt entire, which could be converted into an excellent cellar. Of old, when fire arms were unknown, it certainly was a very ſtrong place. It ſtands on the brink of a frightful precipice, at the bottom of which the river forces its paſſage through rocks, and has been ſecured on the land ſide, by a ditch and draw-bridge. The traces of the ditch are ſtill very viſible *. On the ſide of the glen, oppoſite to the ſouth weſt part of Benevis, lie ſcattered in ruins, the laſt veſtiges of a very ancient building, which, in a few years hence, will be entirely demoliſhed, by the

* Out of the face of the rock, on which the ruins ſtand, grows an aged venerable aſh, luxuriant in branches, where a pair of crows had neſtled, and continued to hatch for a number of years. But, of late, the neſt has been overturned, from real wantonneſs, and its inhabitants ſcared away.—Many things concur to make this a ſcene of mixed pleaſure and grandeur. Below, there is a black deep gulph, that makes the heart recoil; the roar of the water, foaming and forcing its way amidſt rocks, has a wonderful effect upon the mind, while the ſalmon are ſeen ſtruggling againſt its ſtreams. Upon the other ſide of the river, are beheld lambs ſkipping along its banks, while the heath is covered with ſheep, which inſpire pleaſantneſs and gaiety. At ſome diſtance, Benevis ſeems to threaten the neighbouring hills with deſtruction. Here and there, are ſeen ſome plots of arable ground, and the corn changing its colour from green to yellow. The golden rays of the ſetting ſun, glittering on the water, and darting through the green boughs, heighten the picturesque ſcenery. A few yards farther down the river, there is a ſmall iſland, that is covered with large ancient fir, where a vaſt number of herons neſtle, whoſe noiſe is heard at a conſiderable diſtance. A ſcene in which the heart, the mind, and the imagination, are at once intereſted, is ſurely no mean object. Within a few yards of this ruinous caſtle, the preſent miniſter of the pariſh reſides. There are a number of *tumuli* in the pariſh.

the ravages of all-conquering time. It is forgotten in the annals of fame, and tradition itſelf, has hardly been able to preſerve the name it bore, viz.

Dundhairdghall.—It ſtands upon the very ſummit of a green hill, about 400 yards perpendicular in height. The traces of the building are ſtill viſible; and the part now remaining runs round the whole top of the hill, (the compaſs of which is 150 yards), not in any regular form, but following exactly the verge of the ſteep, ſo as to command the greateſt ſtrength poſſible. The figure is nearly oval. By its ſituation upon this elevated ſpot, it commands part of Mamore, and the whole of Glenevis, and muſt have been originally intended for a place of defence. This opinion ſeems to be confirmed by the ſize of the work, and by its being in ſight of the caſtle of Inverlochy *. Dundhairdghall appears to have been a fort of great antiquity, and not inferior, in this reſpect, to Inverlochy caſtle: indeed, of the two, it ſeems the more ancient. It is thought to have ſerved as an outwork for ſtrengthening that place, when it was a royal reſidence. Authentic information is upon record, of the kings of Scotland having reſided at Inverlochy, in the time of Charles the Great of France: and this need not ſeem ſurpriſing, when we reflect that Scotland was then, moſt probably, confined within very narrow bounds. Granting the probability of the co-antiquity of theſe buildings, Dundhairdghall is not leſs than 1,000 years old. The part of the wall that remains, is no more than from 2 to 4 feet high, and is vitrified all round. As this naturally renders ſtone more friable, it has probably accelerated the downfall of the building. How the fire has been applied, can be only conjectured.

* Inverlochy caſtle is within leſs than 2 miles of Fort-William, but in the pariſh of Kilmanivaig.

jectured *. Of the æra, hiſtory, and uſe of this place, tradition is totally ſilent. And, in fact, when the hiſtory of Inverlochy caſtle itſelf is involved in ſo much obſcurity and fable, no wonder that its watch-tower ſhould moulder into forgetfulneſs and oblivion †.

Eminent Men.—Of theſe the pariſh has not been wholly barren. In the reign of James I., flouriſhed JAMES CAMERON, a native of this pariſh, who was biſhop of Glaſgow, chancellor of Scotland, and firſt miniſter to that monarch. He was a man of great learning, and a profound ſtateſman ‡.—In the reign of Queen Mary, lived JOHN CAMERON, miniſter of Dunoon; a perſon of great probity and learning, and father to the "great CAMERON, who was then the moſt famous Proteſ-"tant divine living. He paſt his younger years in the Uni-"verſity of Glaſgow; and leaving his own country, when he "was very young, he arrived at Bourdeaux in 1660, where "he was much noticed for his great qualities and progreſs in "learning. He taught divinity, for three years, at Lamur, "and ſeemed to embrace the opinion of Arminius, in ſupport "of which he publiſhed many treatiſes."—Sir EWEN CAMERON was born in 1629, and died in 1719. Of this gentleman, the author of this article could ſay much, having materials in his hands for ſeveral pages §. JOHN INNES, another native of this pariſh, is well known to the medical ſtudent, by his *Treatiſe on the Muſcles*, and his anatomical tables of the human

* See an account of vitrified forts, publiſhed by Alexander Fraſer Tytler, Eſq.

† Notwithſtanding theſe fragments of ancient fortification, there have been no battles, in this pariſh, of any conſequence; but frequent ſkirmiſhes between the clans, *Cameron* and *M'Intoſh*.

‡ *Vide* Buchanan, b. XI.

§ See a good account of him in Penant's Tour, ſecond edition.

human body.—The laſt man of genius, born in the pariſh, whom we ſhall mention, is Mr. ROBERT GRAY, who bid fair to ſhine, had he lived; but, being born with a delicate conſtitution, he literally fell a ſacrifice to his thirſt for literature. He died at Edinburgh, 6th January 1791*.

Advantages and Diſadvantages.—The great extent of ſea ſhore has been already mentioned as an advantage to the pariſh; nor are the mild winters, and the eaſy communication with other parts of the world, among the leaſt of them. The pariſh, in general, is well provided with excellent peats, which is the chief fuel that is uſed. Fort-William, however, is ill ſupplied with this neceſſary article. And, indeed, were the duty taken off coals, none who live upon the ſhore would burn any other fuel. Thus, much time, that is now unavoidably taken up in procuring the article of fire, would be ſaved; and many hands might be employed in fiſhing, and other uſeful occupations, that, at preſent, are neglected. Another great diſadvantage, but not peculiar to this pariſh alone, is the duty upon ſalt. There are other inconveniences and diſadvantages, that are peculiar to this pariſh, eſpecially to Fort-William and Maryburgh, but which could be removed without any great expence. Some of theſe are, the want of a quay, of a regular

* In a few days after, the following character of him appeared in the papers: "On Sunday laſt died here, at the age of 20, Mr. Robert Gray of Loſs, late "preſident of the Royal Medical and Royal Phyſical Societies, Edinburgh, moſt "ſincerely lamented by the whole Univerſity. It is difficult to ſay, whether "more admiration was excited by his acquiſition in every branch of ſcience, at "ſo early a period, or more love and eſteem by the ſincerity and diſintereſtedneſs "of his friendſhip, joined to the moſt amiable and engaging manners. The "heart-felt grief of his fellow ſtudents, who have often been delighted by his "eloquence, and inſtructed by his erudition, is the moſt unequivocal teſtimony "to his worth, and will long continue to be the moſt flattering tribute to his me"rit, though it may embitter the loſs ſuſtained by his relations."

regular weekly market, of good water, of a tannery, of a ſaw mill, and of a manufactory.

Propoſed Improvements.—In ſtormy weather, veſſels, lying at Fort William, are obliged to unmoor, and croſs to the oppoſite ſhore: where, indeed, there is a pretty ſafe harbour, and good anchorage, called *Camuſnugaul.* This is always attended with additional expence and loſs of time, and ſometimes the veſſels receive damage upon the banks. All this could be avoided, if only 400l. were laid out in building a proper quay. But, ſmall as this ſum is, the merchants of Fort William are unable to advance it. The Duke of Gordon, who is proprietor of the place, is the only perſon from whom aſſiſtance can be expected. But the neceſſity, or utility of ſuch a work, has never been repreſented to him. There is a ſtill greater neceſſity of eſtabliſhing at Fort William, a weekly market for butcher meat and other articles. For want of this, people ſeldom have it in their power to purchaſe freſh meat; and all winter and ſpring they feed upon ſalt proviſions. This could be eaſily remedied, and ſome of the neighbouring ſheep farmers would find it their intereſt, were they to ſell ſome of their flock to a butcher in the place.

Abundance of good water could eaſily, and at a ſmall expence, be conducted by pipes. This ought to be done by Government, becauſe the garriſon is much worſe ſupplied than the village.—The only objection, againſt a tannery, is, that there are too few cattle killed in the country, for keeping ſuch a work going. But, then, would it not be an eaſy matter to import undreſſed hides, and to tan them here? This is done in other places.—Againſt the erection of a ſaw mill, there can be no ſolid objection. There was one formerly on the river Archaig; but it did not anſwer the purpoſe, on account of its diſtance from the garriſon; and was therefore

diſcontinued. A vaſt quantity of timber is imported yearly to Fort William, and 6 ſawers are conſtantly employed about it: Whereas a mill would ſaw more in a few days, than all the 6 would do in a twelvemonth. It ſhould be built upon the Nevis, within a few yards of the foot.

What would be of ſtill greater benefit to this pariſh, and likewiſe to all the ſurrounding countries, would be the eſtabliſhment of a manufactory of coarſe woollen cloth. If nations conſider the exportation of ráw materials, as one of the greateſt diſadvantages and misfortunes, is it not to be regretted, that 10,000 ſtones of wool ſhould be annually exported, from this pariſh alone, to Liverpool, and other ports of England, whence it is ſometimes returned to ourſelves, after it is wrought into cloth? Thus the Engliſh manufacturer and merchant are enriched by the produce of our country, while hundreds of our own people are idle and unemployed throughout the whole year*.

But the improvement that would be of the greateſt advantage to the pariſh, and indeed to the whole kingdom, would be,

* This extreme *tardineſs in improvements* muſt, in a great degree, be attributed to the want of public ſpirit, and of liberal ſentiments, in many of the landholders; for whoſe benefit it may not be improper to inſert the following lines, compoſed *extempore*, a few years ago, by a gentleman, a highland proprietor, when at Laurencekirk, on his way to Edinburgh, by way of apoſtrophe to Lord GARDENSTONE:

" If Rome, from a dirty and mean paultry village,
" Aroſe to ſuch grandeur, by plunder and pillage,
" What may not the Patron of LAURENCEKIRK hope,
" Before arts and ſcience and induſtry drop?
" Had our Lords, or our Lairds, but the half of thy merit,
" The tenth of thy ſenſe, or the twelfth of thy ſpirit;
" Our poor would be rich, and our rich would be great,
" And quite independent of minions of ſtate."

be, to cut a canal between the weſt and eaſt ſeas. Without aid from government, it is too great an undertaking for private individuals. It could eaſily be accompliſhed; for there are 3 large lakes intervening, viz. Lochy, Oich, and Neſs, where ſhips of the line might ſail. Two miles of dry land are the utmoſt diſtance, following the courſe of the lakes and rivers iſſuing from them, betwixt Fort William and Inverneſs. The channels of the rivers would require to be made deeper and wider, and in ſome places, no doubt, altered entirely. Were this paſſage opened, the long and dangerous navigation by the Pentland Frith would be avoided.—Another canal, from the head of Locheile to Loch Sheil, would be of very great advantage to this pariſh. The diſtance, between theſe two lochs, is between 3 and 4 miles of a ſoft moſs. From Loch Sheil a river runs into the ſea of about a mile long. The benefit of ſuch a canal would be experienced by all navigators, going from the north to the Clyde; the dangerous point of Ardnamurchan would not then be dreaded by them.

Manner of living prior to the year 1764.—All the arable ground was carefully cultivated, and ſowed, moſtly with oats. If the returns were few, the rents were low. Farms were divided into ſmall proportions among the occupants; yet their cattle were grazed in common, every tenant having cattle in proportion to the ſhare of rent which he paid. The cattle were nevertheleſs appropriated, and each had his own, and their fruits. Beſides black cattle, they had a few ſheep and goats; out of which, they could, at any time, afford to take part for the uſe of their families. And, as they had plenty of milk, butter and cheeſe, and a good deal of oats, they lived very comfortably. In return, they were always ready to perform for their landlords every kind of ſervice. This was rarely an involuntary ſervice. For, when they had the

felicity to have a good maſter, their attachment to him was ſtrong and ardent. Inſtances of ſuch are freſh in the memory of many living: and there have been *proprietors, who never removed a tenant;* and *tenants, who never ſought a diſcharge for their rents.* Landlords, when indulgent, actually poſſeſſed all the authority and love of a magiſtrate, of a protector and a father. In thoſe days, however, the tenants were ill lodged, and as ill clothed.

Manner of living upon Sheep Farms, anno 1791.—The people ſubſiſt, as may naturally be expected, in a great meaſure, upon the offals of the flock. If they live apart, as herds, they have each a ſtone of oat-meal per week, from the poſſeſſor, together with graſs for 2 cows, and 70 ſheep; and they may plant as much potatoes, for their own uſe, as they can cultivate. They live very comfortably, and generally ſave ſome money. They are well accommodated in clothes and bedding; which is a conſequence of their more extenſive commerce with the world, and of the abundance of wool. Travelling the hills, to look after the ſheep, is their uſual employment; excepting at the ſmearing and ſhearing ſeaſons, when they gather them all down to the low grounds, and take them by parcels for theſe purpoſes.—Shepherds, who live in their maſters houſes, have their maintenance, and graſs for 70 ſheep, or ſo. Their allowance and profits are far ſuperior to thoſe of domeſtic work ſervants. Their ſheep are marked for themſelves, and the produce ſold commonly with the maſter's, and at the ſame price*.

Character.

* Servants are kept, either for tending and managing ſheep, or for black cattle. The former are few in proportion: two ſhepherds are ſufficient for any ordinary farm, capable of grazing 1,460 ſheep. If they live in their maſter's houſe, they have, beſides their maintenance, graſs for 70 ſheep. If the ſhepherd be married, and keep a family of his own, he has graſs for a cow, and 60 ſheep

Martial Spirit.—Upon the ſea coaſt, the people are fond of a ſea-faring life. Their diſpoſition, however, leads them to delight more in the ſound of the pipe, and in the clang of arms, than in the majeſty of the tempeſt; thinking it more honourable to ſerve in the field of Mars, than in the empire of Neptune. By an authentic regiſter, it appears, that, during the war in 1756, Kilmalie and Kilmanivaig pariſhes, between them, furniſhed 750 men to the army and navy. It is almoſt needleſs to ſay, that the natives of Lochaber prefer enliſting in Highland regiments; and it is perhaps equally ſo to mention, what valour and conduct they have diſplayed, and what glory they have acquired, under prudent commanders. The Legiſlature would then ſurely act wiſely, by encouraging ſuch a uſeful and warlike body of men, to remain in their native country. No ſtep, however, has hitherto been taken for that purpoſe; and the ſyſtem adopted by the landlords, of farming their eſtates,

ſheep, or thereabout, and a ſtone of meal per week: All of which are equal to about 20l.—If a ſervant be employed for the purpoſes of huſbandry, and lives by himſelf, with a family, but ready to anſwer when called on, to aſſiſt in the work of the farm, he is paid as follows:

Graſs for 2 cows, valued at	L. 2	10	0
Ditto for 20 ſheep, valued at	2	0	0
Lands for potatoes, &c. valued at	1	0	0
Maintenance, when working for his maſter, valued at	3	10	0
Oat-meal, 3 1-half bolls, valued at	2	18	4
Caſh,	5	0	0
	L. 16	18	4

He has alſo the uſe of his maſter's horſes.

Upon black cattle farms, the wages are ſomething different. Domeſtic ſervant men have from 5l. to 6l.; women, from 50s. to 3l. In harveſt, or in time of cutting peats, the men have 1s. per day, and the women from 6d. to 8d., with their dinner.

estates, tends to extirpate and compel them to seek bread in foreign climes. Admitting that they receive employment in the Low Countries, debility and effeminacy would there soon extinguish their heroic spirit and martial ardour.

Miscellaneous Observations.—The greatest height, which any individual in the parish has attained, is 6 feet 7½ inches, without shoes and stockings. The general size of the people is 5 feet 7½ inches; they are tight and well-built.—There are 2 four wheel chaises, one of them belonging to the vintner at Fort William, which he lets to travellers: There are other 3 kinds of machines of two wheels each; one of these also belongs to the same vintner. There may be about two dozen carts. Sledges are chiefly used in leading home hay and corn. Peats, for the most part, are carried in creels upon horseback.—There are between 80 and 100 boats in the parish. Of these, 60 belong to Maryburgh; where there are also 4 sloops, from 20 to 40 tons, and 1 brig of 200 tons.—There are 8 stated ferries; 5 of which are on the salt water.—Bridges and government roads are in a good state; but the country roads, which are carried on at the expence of the counties, have been, and still are, much neglected. The statute labour is commuted at 6d. per day.—In 1782 and 1783, the parish was remarkably well supplied with provisions. The Duke of Gordon sent two cargoes for its relief, one of pease meal, and the other of potatoes; and the Commissioners of the Annexed Estates sent two more, one of oats and pease, and the other of potatoes.—There are no ale-houses in the parish, but many whisky retailers. Indeed they are so numerous, that they are a nuisance, and tend, very much, to encourage idleness, and to corrupt the morals of the people. In Fort-William there are two inns; and, in almost every other house in Maryburgh, whisky is sold.—There are 4 students attending universities.—The prevailing

prevailing name in the pariſh is *Cameron*.—There have been two inſtances of ſuicide *.

NUMBER

* The following character of the people, drawn up by a friend of the incumbent's, does not ſeem to err, on, what is too commonly the caſe, the ſide of partiality; and it is therefore given, as in general the clergy are accuſed of having tranſmitted accounts, rather too favourable, of the manners and morals of their pariſhioners.

Character of the People.—" They are ſometimes accuſed of being given to " change; but many inſtances of ſteady and unſhaken friendſhip are not want- " ing. In profeſſions of kindneſs they are profuſe; and their ſincerity, in gene- " ral, is more to be depended on, than is uſual on ſuch occaſions. They are " inquiſitive, but (more eſpecially after having had the advantage of ſome in- " tercourſe with the world at large), diſtinguiſhed by the politeneſs of their " manners, and the inſinuation of their addreſs: Fond of ſauntering in idleneſs, " but leſs addicted to a roving life than heretofore: Though poor, inclined to " indolence; and though naturally ſagacious and intelligent, yet not in general " learned: Leſs revengeful and implacable than formerly, and, now, more diſ- " poſed to determine matters by litigation, than by arms; family diſſenſions " imbitter not their lives, as in the feudal times: Impatient of reſtraint; yet, " when under a proper leader, in whom they have confidence, invincible by " fatigue, cold, or hunger: Intrepid, equal to any race of men ever known, " in the midſt of the greateſt dangers: Leſs hoſpitable than of old, (indeed " the old exertions of hoſpitality are not now ſo neceſſary as formerly;) but " when feaſts are prepared, the cheer is good: Spirited in a high degree to " promote works of public utility: Charitable and willing to relieve the diſ- " treſſed, as far as their circumſtances will admit of: Though no ſtrangers to " the power and influence of religion, yet rather apt to undervalue its holy " ordinances: Fond of ſpirituous liquors, yet ſeldom habitual drunkards: " They deſerve praiſe for their continence; but are rather addicted to ſwear- " ing.—Theſe are ſome of the predominant traits; and though there muſt be " a great variety of character among 4,225 perſons, yet there are, in this diſ- " trict, no inconſiderable proportion of perſons, diſtinguiſhed by their gene- " roſity, humanity, diſintereſtedneſs, benevolence, hoſpitality, temperance, piety, " and religion."

NUMBER XXV.

PARISH OF TORRYBURN.

(*County and Synod of Fife—Preſbytery of Dumfermline*)

By the Rev. Mr. DAVID BALFOUR.

Erection and Name.

THE pariſh, now known by the name of Torryburn, includes the pariſhes of *Torry* and *Crombie*. When their union took place, cannot be aſcertained; but it appears, from certain papers relating to the ſtipend, that it muſt have been before the year 1623. The name of the former, *Torry*, ſignifies, in Gaelic, the *King*'s *Height*, and, with the addition of *burn*, the Scotch word for a rivulet, is now the general name of both. This addition ſeems to have been ſuggeſted by a ſmall ſtream, which runs along the ſouth eaſt part of the principal village in the pariſh, and divides the two baronies of Torry and Crombie*.

Situation

3

* The names of the places, in the pariſh, are partly Engliſh, and partly Gaelic. The Engliſh names are expreſſive, either of the local ſituation, or of the name of

Situation and Extent.—It lies on the weſtern extremity of the county of Fife. Its extent is inconſiderable, being only, from E. to W. about 2 miles, the ſame in breadth on the eaſt quarter, and nearly the ſame on the weſt, if the lands, which are in the pariſh only *quoad ſacra*, are included. From N. W. to S. E. it will meaſure between 4 and 5 miles.

Soil and Cultivation.—The ſoil, throughout the pariſh, is naturally good, and in general well cultivated, particularly the lands of Torry, all of which are incloſed, and in the higheſt ſtate of improvement. Theſe lands, when laid down in graſs, make excellent paſturage. The ſucceſſion of crops on the Torry eſtate, (moſt of which is at preſent in the hands of the proprietor), is in general as follows:—turnips, barley, red clover, wheat, beans, oats. The ground is well dunged for the turnips, and well limed for the wheat. This method of cropping, has been found to ſucceed very well. The lands, in general, let from 20s. to 40s. per acre.—The time of ſowing peaſe, beans, and oats, is from the middle of March till the middle of April. Barley is commonly ſown in the month of

of the original proprietor. Thus, *Moorſide*, ſituated on the ſide of a moor; *Grey Crags*, ſituated near a ſtone quarry; *Milltown Row*, a row of houſes ſituated near where a mill once ſtood; *Knowhead*, ſituated on the top of a riſing ground; *Annsfield*, the field of Ann. The Gaelic names, *Torry*, (above mentioned); *Inzievar*, a *place ſeen from a diſtance*; *Drumſin*, or rather *ſian*, the ridge of Fingal, and probably *Crombie* and *Pitſoulie*.—There were two perſons belonging to this place, who accompanied Lord Anſon in his voyage round the world, in the years 1741-2-3, and who came to England with him in the year 1744. The proportion of prize-money, which, in the courſe of this expedition, fell to the ſhare of one of theſe men, was pretty conſiderable. Upon his return home, he purchaſed a ſmall piece of ground, and built a houſe upon it, which he called *Tinian*, after the beautiful and fertile iſland of that name in the Pacific Ocean, and to which the crew of the *Centurion*, the Commodore's ſhip, and the only remaining one of the ſquadron, owed their preſervation.

May, turnips in June, and wheat in the months of September and October. In early ſeaſons, the harveſt commences about the middle of Auguſt; in late ones, about the beginning of September; and the crops are generally got in by the end of October.—In the year 1782, the fields were not entirely clear before the middle of November.

Climate and Diſeaſes.—The ſituation of Torryburn is healthy and pleaſant, and the inhabitants live to a conſiderable age. There are ſeveral perſons to be found at preſent above 80. There are no diſeaſes in the pariſh which can be called endemial, or peculiar to the people. They are ſometimes afflicted with fevers, but theſe ſeldom prove mortal.

Coals, &c.—In the lands of Torry, the property of Sir William Erſkine, there are many different ſeams of coal, of various qualities and thickneſs. Great fields of theſe coals are ſtill to work, (particularly the main coal of Torry, which is of the beſt quality), but they are all under level. The lands of Crombie were found to contain 6 ſeams of coal, of a quality much the ſame with that of the Newcaſtle, and, like it, turned out ſmall. The ſeams above the level are wrought out. Parts of the others ſtill remain, but cannot be wrought but with the aſſiſtance of a powerful engine. The following table of the thickneſs of the various ſeams of coal, in both eſtates, was furniſhed by a gentleman, who was proprietor of the one, and had a leaſe of the other.

	Feet.			Feet.
TORRY,	11	main coal	CROMBIE	7
	9	This coal has neither ſmoke		5
	6	nor flame, and is uſed only		4
	5	in drying malt.		4
	4			3
	3	Parrot coal.		2
	3			
	2			

Beſides

Beſides theſe different ſeams, there is, on the north parts of Torry, a fine parrot coal, in thickneſs 4 feet, which is very valuable, and is ſaid to ſell in the London market, at a higher price than any other.—There is alſo very good iron ſtone in the pariſh, ſome of which has been wrought.

Population.—This pariſh, though inconſiderable in regard to extent, is pretty populous. Upon a ſurvey of the inhabitants, taken laſt year (1791), they amounted to 1,600 ſouls. The return to Doctor Webſter in 1755, was 1,635. The following table will ſhew the medium of marriages, births, and burials for the laſt 20 years.

Years.	Mar.	Births.	Bur.
1772	20	75	34
3	17	67	68
4	15	78	30
5	15	69	36
6	11	63	36
7	11	77	62
8	15	81	47
9	9	70	48
1780	11	68	41
1	8	61	34
	132	709	436
Ann. Av. nearly	13	70	43

Years.	Mar.	Births.	Bur.
1782	10	63	44
3	6	60	62
4	18	66	34
5	23	62	56
6	16	57	36
7	16	66	56
8	10	52	22
9	12	54	42
1790	17	43	59
1	7	57	40
	135	580	451
Ann. Av. nearly	13	58	45

From this comparative ſtatement, it appears, by the births, that the population of the pariſh has been upon the decreaſe during the laſt 10 years, which is actually the caſe. In the firſt period, the coal in the eſtate of Crombie was wrought to a pretty conſiderable extent; but, when it began to fail, numbers of the workmen went to collieries in the neighbourhood; and at preſent, very few families of them remain in the pariſh. With regard to the deaths, (the mediums of which, in both periods, are nearly equal, and which, in the laſt, ought

to have diminiſhed in proportion), it muſt be obſerved, that thoſe people who have left the pariſh, ſtill continue to bury their dead here, whoſe interments, without diſtinction, are inſerted in the regiſter, along with thoſe of actual pariſhioners. It appears, from the regiſter of the dead, which was begun in this pariſh in February 1696 *, that in the year 1697, 114 died; and that of theſe, 76 died in the months of January, February, March and April. In the year 1699, 81 died; of whom 40 in the months of September, October, November and December. This vaſt mortality is accounted for by a dearth †, which prevailed, more or leſs, for 7 years in the end of laſt century; at which period alſo, great numbers of fiſh are ſaid to have been thrown in upon the coaſt; of theſe the people eat immediately from the want of other food, and thereby became the prey of dyſenteries, and other putrid diſorders. —The great body of the people is compoſed of day labourers ‡, mechanics, and ſailors.

Proprietors and Rent.—There are 14 heritors in the pariſh, 4 great, and 10 ſmall. The valued rent, as appears from an extract taken from the ceſs books of the county, amounts to 5,184l. Scotch. There are ſome lands, in the pariſh only *quoad ſacra*, the valued rent of which is 889l. 3s. 4d. Scotch.

Church and Schools.—The value of the living, including a glebe of two acres and a half, amounts to between 80l. and 90l. Sterling.

* The medium of deaths might then be about 21.

† The meal is ſaid on that occaſion, to have been ſo high as 2s. per peck.

‡ Day labourers earn, in ſummer, 1s. per day; and, in winter, 9d. or 10d. Wrights and maſons, 1s. 6d.; and the wages of plowmen are from 6l. to 8l. per annum. The wages of women, are, for turnip weeding, and hay making, 6d.; and ſhearing in harveſt, 7d. and 8d., with their proviſions.

Sterling. The patron is the Rev. Dr. John Erſkine of Carnock, one of the miniſters of Edinburgh.—There is a good parochial ſchool here for the following branches of education: Latin, Engliſh, writing, arithmetic, navigation and book-keeping; beſides a Sabbath evening ſchool, which is ſupported by ſubſcription, and is at preſent in a flouriſhing condition, and well attended.

Poor.—The number of perſons at preſent on the poor's roll amounts to 50; 15 of theſe receive each from 3d. to 6d. per week; other 15 are allowed 4l. Scotch, to enable them to defray their houſe rents; and the remaining 20 are thoſe, who, though in leſs indigent circumſtances, ſtand in need of ſome aſſiſtance, and receive from time to time, according as the funds will allow. The funds, from whence theſe payments are made, ariſe, chiefly, from the weekly collections at the church doors, and the profits of the mortcloth, which amount, in all, to about 30l. Sterling yearly.

Shipping and Trade.—There are 13 veſſels belonging to this place, viz. 1 ſhip, 3 brigs, and 9 ſloops; whoſe burdens, put together, amount to upwards of 1000 tons, and give employment to about 70 ſeamen. The larger veſſels are engaged in foreign trade. The ſloops are coaſters; but ſome of them occaſionally go up the Baltic for wood and grain. We have 2 paſſage boats, the largeſt of which was built by the merchants of Dunfermline, principally for the purpoſe of tranſporting to Borrowſtownneſs their manufactured diapers, which are brought here in carts, and carried to London by the Borrowſtownneſs traders, and for bringing over the goods, which come for them by the ſame conveyance: And the other is chiefly employed in importing commodities for the conſumption of the inhabitants. There are no manufactures in the pariſh; but

but there is a conſiderable quantity of yarn ſpun for the manufacturers in Dunfermline, which brings into circulation here, to the amount of between 400l. and 500l. Sterling yearly.

Antiquities.—There are no natural curioſities in the pariſh, and its antiquities are but few. In a pretty extenſive plain field, N. E. of the village of Torryburn, there is a flat ſtone, raiſed upon one end, of a ſhape nearly oblong, and meaſuring, from the ſurface to the top, about 8 feet, and about 4½ in breadth. Round the edge of it there is a deep circle, and on each of the ſides a number of ridges, all of which wear the appearance of art and antiquity. At about 18 or 20 paces from this ſtone, there is a number of ſmaller ones, which, from their preſent poſition, ſeem to have formed part of a circle. This place is thought to have been the ſcene of a battle in ſome former period, and theſe ſtones to mark the graves of ſome of the chiefs, who had fallen in the engagement. And the ſuppoſition is rendered highly probable by the name which it ſtill bears, *Tollzies*, which is evidently a corruption of the Scotch word *Tulzie*, which ſignifies a a *fight*.

In the church-yard, there is part of an epitaph, which, from its ſingularity, and at the ſame time beautiful ſimplicity, appears well worth preſervation. When the preſent incumbent entered to his benefice, it was entire upon the grave ſtone; but a gentleman, whoſe property the burying ground now is, perhaps from inattention, cauſed part of it to be eraſed, in order to make room for inſerting the deaths of ſome of his relations. The following is the epitaph intire, as originally compoſed.

EPI-

EPITAPH.

" At *anchor* now, in Death's dark *Road*,
" Rides honeſt Captain HILL,
" Who ſerv'd his king, and fear'd his God,
" With upright heart and will.

" In ſocial life ſincere and juſt,
" To vice of no kind given;
" So that his better part, we truſt,
" Hath made the PORT of HEAVEN."

NUMBER

NUMBER XXVI.

PARISH OF FERRY-PORT-ON-CRAIG.

(County and Synod of Fife.—Preſbytery of St. Andrew's.)

By the Rev. ROBERT DALGLEISH *of Scotſcraig*, D. D.
Miniſter of the ſaid Pariſh.

Erection and Name.

THIS pariſh was erected by an act of the 18th parliament of King James VI. in the year 1606. There is a tradition, that the village Ferry-Port-on-Craig belonged to the neighbouring pariſh of Leuchars, previous to that period, and had a chapel of eaſe, though no record can be found old enough to authenticate this fact. So ſtrongly is the tradition thereof impreſſed on the minds of the people, that the ſuppoſed foundation of this chapel, ever ſince that diſtant period, has to this day remained unplowed, in the midſt of a well cultivated field, named *the Chapel.*—The pariſh has its name from its local ſituation. There is a public paſſage over the Tay, from the village of Ferry-Port-on-Craig on the ſouth, to Broughty Caſtle, which ſtands oppoſite, on the north bank of the river. This paſſage was named *Ferry-Port-on-Craig*, to diſtinguiſh it from the many other ferries in this part of Scotland. There being at that time no pier, or quay, on either ſide

ſide of the river, where the paſſage boats might ſhip paſſengers or horſes, it was the cuſtom to boat horſes at the point of a *craig*, or rock, whence the name *Ferry-Port-on-Craig*.

Ferry.—Before the bridge was built over the Tay at Perth, this paſſage was much frequented by perſons of all ranks; but ſince that period, fewer people travel this way, and the road has become almoſt deſerted. The drovers, however, ſtill frequently paſs here, having good conveniency for their cattle on both ſides of the river. It is, indeed, eſteemed one of the ſafeſt paſſages over the Tay, there being no inſtance (in the memory of the oldeſt man alive), of a paſſage boat being caſt away croſſing from the village of Ferry-Port-on-Craig to Bruchty Caſtle; though the river at this paſſage is reckoned two miles broad. The preſent freight for a man is 2d.; and for a horſe 4d., when they go in the birth boat*. It was often found ſo inconvenient and dangerous to boat horſes from a ragged craig, that the Legiſlature interpoſed their authority, ordaining the ferriers to make *Brigges* to their boats, (by which is meant a kind of timber platform, to be laid from the moſt proper part of the craig, to the gunwale of the boat), for ſhipping horſes with more eaſe and ſafety. Theſe briggs were always uſed at this paſſage, till ſome time ago, that piers were built for the convenience of paſſengers, and ſecurity of horſes; but the brigges are ſtill kept, and uſed occaſionally at times, when high winds and tides oblige

*There is an act of the 7th parliament of King James III. held at Edinburgh, May 9th 1474, regulating other paſſages, and extended to this in theſe words: "And at the *Port-in-Craige*, ane penny for the man, and the horſe ane "penny: And quhat ferriers that dois in the contrarie, fall pay fourty ſhillings "to the King, and his perſon priſoned at the will of the King: And that the "ferriers make brigges to their boates, after the forme of the acts maid of be"fore, under the paine conteined in the ſamin."

the boatmen to ſhip horſes at a rock or craig. This paſſage is 4 miles farther eaſtward, and nearer the ocean and mouth of the river, than the paſſage at Dundee. It is private property, being part of the eſtate of Scotſcraig.

Situation, Surface, Village, &c.—This pariſh is ſituated on the ſouth ſide of the river Tay, and ſtretches along the ſouth bank of the river, from its mouth, where it empties itſelf into the German ocean, 5 ſtatute miles from E. to W. It is irregular as to its breadth from N. to S., being in ſome places one mile, and at other places not above half a mile broad. On the E. the ſurface is flat and low. Though there are no remarkable mountains, yet towards the W. it is high and rocky, where the hills have not ſoil enough for cultivation. They are moſtly covered with whins and ſhort graſs, the bare rocks appearing but in few places. Where the pariſh is bounded by the German ocean, the ſhore is ſandy; but where it is bounded by the river, it varies, being in ſome places ſandy, in others covered with ſea gravel. At the village it is a rocky ſhore. The pariſh contains the houſe of Scotſcraig, (where the family reſides), four farms, with their cottaries, and the village of Ferry-Port-on-Craig, from whence the pariſh has its name. The greateſt number of the pariſhioners live in the Ferry, where the church and manſe are both ſituated, and are very centrical for the pariſhioners.

Extent, Soil, and Produce.—From a map of the pariſh, it appears there are in it 2,026 Scotch acres. The ſoil is of various kinds, conſiſting of clay, ſtrong and light loam, ſand, and links. The crops that are beſt adapted for the clay, to produce the greateſt profit, are, wheat, beans, barley, graſs, and oats. Flax is ſown to very good advantage; but, on the whole, it is rather an uncertain crop; it likewiſe pro-

duces

duces potatoes, but the quality is generally not ſo good as in light ſoils. The ſtrong loam ſtands on a whin rock; and, where there is ſufficiency of ſoil, it produces wheat, oats, beans, barley, graſs and potatoes, in great perfection. Flax is ſometimes ſown on this ſoil, but ſeldom proves a good crop. The light loam is founded on ſand, and produces barley, graſs, oats, potatoes, turnips and flax. This ſoil produces the two laſt articles, in a moiſt ſeaſon, very abundantly; but when long tracts of dry weather take place, they prove but poor crops. The ſand produces barley, graſs, oats, rye, turnips and flax; all which crops, in a favourable ſeaſon, turn out far beyond what a ſtranger to the nature of the ſoil could imagine. The flax in particular, turns out to be a very lucrative crop. The links produce a kind of paſture for cattle and ſheep, and afford accommodation for the grey rabbits, which, within theſe few years, have turned out very valuable to the poſſeſſors, on account of the extraordinary demand for their ſkins, which ſold at 8s. Sterling per dozen laſt year.

Cultivation, Cattle, Exports and Imports, &c.—All the tenants now uſe only ploughs drawn by two horſes; one man both holds the plough, and drives the horſes with a pair of long reins. In driving their corn and dung, they uſe carts drawn by two horſes. The farmers in the country employ 17 ploughs. Cultivating the acres occupied by the feuars in the Ferry, gives ſufficient employment to 3 more, which makes the number of ploughs uſed in the whole pariſh amount to 20.—There are 61 working horſes. The greatneſs of their number is owing to the villagers in the Ferry, keeping more horſes than would be ſufficient for the cultivation of the land they poſſeſs, were they always employed in agriculture; but they frequently uſe them in driving coals for hire, and ſuch like work.—Only 1 farmer keeps a flock; they are of the ſmall

white faced breed, and weigh at an average 22 pounds the whole carcaſe. The ſame breed has been kept in that farm for many years paſt, without any change. The farmers have in all about 240 ſheep; they produce excellent wool, which is ſold to the people in the neighbourhood at about 15s. Sterling the ſtone weight. The pariſh exports barley, and imports oat-meal *.

Climate and Diſeaſes.—The air is reckoned very wholeſome. The people are generally healthy. Epidemical diſtempers ſeldom rage here; the beſt evidence of the ſalubrity of the air is, that during the incumbency of the preſent miniſter, there have always been in the village ſome old people of 80 years and upwards. There are ſeveral of that age alive juſt now (October 5th 1792). About 20 years ago, the ague was ſo frequent, that few people eſcaped it, in a greater or leſs degree at ſome period of life; but for ſome years paſt, it has ſcarcely made its appearance. Rheumatiſms and nervous diſorders are now moſt prevalent.

Fiſheries.—There are conſiderable ſalmon fiſhings in the river Tay, oppoſite to this pariſh. The ſalmon is eſteemed of a good quality, being taken ſo near the ocean. They are ſold to the Perth merchants, who ſend them to the London market. Theſe fiſhings afford ſummer employment for ſeveral hands, and often yield them great returns for their labour, and the expence laid out in preparing their nets and other apparatus

* In ordinary ſeaſons, the wheat ſeed continues from the middle of September to the end of October; the rye is ſown from about the 15th to the 25th of November; oats, peaſe, and beans, from the 12th March to the end of April; potatoes are planted from the 15th to the end of April; barley is ſown during the month of May; turnips during the month of June. The harveſt is rather early; but in wet ſeaſons, the harveſt is both late, and very uncertain.

paratus for the fiſhing; but they are not equally productive every ſeaſon. They do not begin to fiſh for ſalmon, in this part of the river, till about the end of April; and they give over the 26th of Auguſt. There is only one boat's crew engaged in the white fiſhery. The fiſhing ground for white fiſh is moſtly without the river. The fiſhermen carry their fiſh to Dundee; ſo that the price of the ſmall quantity ſold here, is regulated by the market there; but this fiſhing has failed much for ſome years paſt. In the ſummer months, great numbers of ſmall flounders are caught in this part of the river, as any perſon is permitted to uſe hand lines in that fiſhing. It is very uſeful to the poor people, who have an opportunity of ſupplying their families with theſe fiſh, at no expence. On the ſouth ſide of this part of the Tay, there is a *ſcalp* of a ſmall kind of muſſels, eſteemed good bait for the white fiſh; they are purchaſed for that purpoſe by the fiſhermen in the neighbourhood. In the ſands there is alſo plenty of ſea worms, which the fiſhermen call *Lugg*, and prefer them even to muſſels for bait in the ſummer ſeaſon; but theſe worms ſink ſo deep in the ſand in winter, that they cannot be got. Theſe ſmall muſſels are, therefore, the only bait uſed for the white fiſhing, in winter.

Migratory Birds.—Several kinds of ſea fowls frequent the ſhore during winter. Every year, about the month of April, they leave the coaſt, to go and hatch their young. They return again in the month of Auguſt, and continue in this country till April, when they take their annual flight. They are immediately ſucceeded by other ſea fowls, that make their appearance here in the ſpring, remain during the ſummer months, and hatch about the ſhore. In the month of Auguſt or September, they remove from this to their winter habitations. Next ſeaſon, at the uſual time, they pay their annual

viſit

viſit to this country. Thus they follow each other in conſtant ſucceſſion every year.

Population.—It appears from the pariſh roll taken up this year, compared with a liſt made out in the year 1762, that the village has had an increaſe of 84 families, and the country of 4, within theſe 30 years, in all 88 families; that the former has increaſed 194 examinable perſons, and the latter 11; and that the whole pariſh has increaſed to the number of 205 perſons, above 7 years of age, within that period. The following table exhibits the preſent ſtate of the pariſh, and the total increaſe, within theſe 40 years.

	In the village.	In the country.	Total.
Number of families,	208	32	240
Perſons above 7 years of age,	569	131	709
——— below ———	135	40	175
Total,	704	171	875
The return to Dr. Webſter in 1755, was			621
Increaſe,			254
Number of males above 7 years of age,			310
——— females above ditto,			390
Majority of females,			80

Number of ſailors* about	35	Number of ale ſellers, who are brewers,	3
——— weavers, 67	9	——— male labouring ſervants about	35
——— wrights,	9	Annual average of births within the laſt 9 years,	27⅓
——— tailors,	9	——— ditto, marriages,	6⅓
——— ſmiths,	3	——— ditto, deaths, nearly	18
——— ſhoemakers,	5		
——— bakers,	3		
——— ale ſellers in the village,	6		

The

* Theſe are moſtly employed in the Dundee merchantmen.

The increaſe in population, which is chiefly in the village, is owing partly to the neighbouring farmers not inclining to keep ſuch large cottaries as formerly: This has obliged ſeveral families to come into the Ferry, where they hire ſmall houſes, and ſupport themſelves by their induſtry, either as tradeſmen or day labourers. The great increaſe of manufactures, has alſo encouraged many young men to follow that line of life, who continue to reſide as tradeſmen within the town.

Abſtract of Baptiſms, Marriages, and Deaths, as entered in the Pariſh Regiſter, for the laſt nine years.

Years.	Baptiſms.	Marriages.	Deaths.
1783	18	7	21
1784	24	6	18
1785	25	6	10
1786	31	8	26
1787	26	7	18
1788	38	5	13
1789	28	6	15
1790	29	5	12
1791	27	7	28
In all -	246	57	161

Manufactures.—The principal manufacture, is weaving coarſe brown linens, of different fabrics. The weavers are chiefly employed by the merchants of Dundee in manufacturing theſe linens. They ſometimes weave other cloth for country uſe. The women's work is generally ſpinning the yarn for theſe brown linens. So great is the preſent demand for ſuch linens, that both the weavers and ſpinners have more work offered them, than they are able to undertake; and the

wages

wages are conſiderably higher than formerly *.—The other artiſts work principally for the uſe of the people in the pariſh and neighbourhood; and ſometimes manufacture articles for ſale.

Church and School.—The King is patron. The preſent incumbent is the 8th miniſter ſince the Revolution, and has been 32 years in the pariſh.—The value of the living varies according to the prices of grain. It conſiſts of 39 bolls 2 firlots of bear, 40 bolls of oats by the decreet, but by uſe and wont of payment, 4 bolls 1 firlot of theſe 40 bolls of oats, are paid in oat-meal: 10 bolls of peaſe; and in money the ſum of 17l. 11s. 8d. Sterling; 10s. of that ſum is paid by the proprietor of Leuchars for a ſalmon fiſhing. The proprietor of Scotſcraig pays the whole ſtipend, except the 10s. juſt mentioned, and holds up the kirk, manſe and ſchool. Out of the teinds of this pariſh, 5 bolls bear, 7 bolls 3 firlots of white

* A common day-labourer, from Candlemas to Martinmas, will, at an average, earn from 12d. to 14d. a-day; an ordinary tradeſman, who works on day's wages, from 15d. to 18d.; but maſons have higher wages than ordinary tradeſmen, owing to the great increaſe of manufactures, which have excited ſuch an uncommon ſpirit for building, that they get from 20d. to 22d. a-day in ſummer; but from Martinmas to Candlemas, maſons have only about 14d., and the labourers about 10d. a-day. During the whole year, they all furniſh themſelves with proviſions out of their wages. The greatneſs of the wages depends much on the demand at the time. Tailors get 6d. a-day, and their meat, throughout the year. It is cuſtomary for both tradeſmen and ſpinſters, to hire themſelves to the neighbouring farmers, at fixed wages, for the whole harveſt, without reſtriction to any number of days. At an average, the farmer will hire a tradeſman, for the whole harveſt, at 1l. 3s. Sterling, and a woman at 17s. 6d. Both ſexes have their victuals from the farmer, beſides their wages. When a man is occaſionally hired per day, he receives 1s., and a woman 10d., beſides their maintenance. The hire of labourers and ſervants wages are ſtill on the increaſe.

white oats are paid yearly to the miniſter of Dull, in Athol; and 1s. 8d. Sterling of vicarage to the miniſter of Leuchars. The glebe conſiſts of 4 acres of arable land, let at preſent for 2 bolls 2 firlots of barley each acre; the foggage, being all incloſed, is let for 4l. 7s. Sterling, for which the miniſter pays 10s. Sterling yearly to the tenant of the Mains of Scotſcraig; the ground taken off that farm for foggage, being eſtimated in value to that amount above the legal allowance. The glebe adds to the value of the living 10 bolls of barley, and 3l. 17s. Sterling of money; making the living, with the glebe, amount to 99 bolls 2 firlots of victual, and 21l. 8s. 8d. Sterling of money.—The church was built in the year 1607, the year after the erection of the pariſh, the date being cut in the kirk: The family aiſle, by Sir John Buchanan, then of Scotſcraig, in the year 1644. Under it there is a large vault, where the ſeveral proprietors of the eſtate have been buried, ever ſince the manſe was built, about the year 1727.—The ſalary of the pariſh ſchool is 100 merks Scotch money, paid by the proprietor of Scotſcraig. The ſchoolmaſter is alſo ſeſſion-clerk.

Poor.—The poor's fund ariſes from the intereſt of a ſmall ſum of money appropriated to them, the profits of the mort-cloth, and the very liberal weekly collection made by the pariſhioners. The ſeſſion has no act fixing any certain weekly penſion on any of the poor; but varies the ſum given to them, enlarging or diminiſhing their allowance, according to the difference of their ſituation; but they always give them ſuch ample occaſional ſupplies, as enable the poor, with their own induſtry, to ſubſiſt comfortably in their own houſes; none having been allowed to beg from door to door for many years paſt, either within or without the pariſh. The pariſh funds have ſupported the poor, without any aſſeſſment, theſe 50 years. The number of the poor varies as circumſtances occur. The pre-

ſent number, of thoſe that receive aid from the public pariſh fund, is about 16. Upon ſetting forth, that, from extraordinary loſs, accidental misfortune, or ſudden and ſevere diſtreſs in their family, any are reduced to ſuch a ſituation as to require a greater interim ſupply, than the ordinary ſeſſion funds are able to afford to one family, then, by order of the ſeſſion, an extraordinary collection is intimated from the pulpit, to be made for their benefit, either at the church doors, or from houſe to houſe within the pariſh, as circumſtances may require. Whatever is collected is given to them, that they may have aſſiſtance ſuitable to their preſent urgent neceſſity. Upon a favourable change of circumſtances, they again ſupport themſelves by their induſtry, without having recourſe to ſeſſional aid. When they are in ſuch indigence as not to be able to educate their children, the ſeſſion always pays the ſchool fees, for teaching them at leaſt to read the holy ſcriptures; as they judge it their duty to ſee the children of the poor well educated, and conſider that the beſt beſtowed charity, which procures for them the means of education.

Heritor and Rent.—There is but one heritor, the preſent miniſter, who is proprietor of the whole pariſh. The villagers in the Ferry are all his feuers, for their houſes and ſmall gardens: The farms are his property lands.—The valued rent of the pariſh is 2183l. Scotch money. The value of the rental cannot, with accuracy, be eaſily aſcertained: a great part of it being paid in victual, the value muſt vary, according to the prices of grain, every year.

Scotſcraig Mains.—The farm of the mains of Scotſcraig was originally church land, belonging to the archbiſhopric of St. Andrew's. The Pope, by his bull, allowed the archbiſhop to feu out ſaid farm at the ſum of 132l. 18s. 8d.

Scotch, and 4 bolls of peaſe. The yearly value of the peaſe, with the ſaid ſum of money, is annually paid to the collector of the biſhop's rents. It is handed down by tradition, that a Mr. Scott, a ſon of the family of Balwirie, in Fife, was the feuer; and, to diſtinguiſh it from other farms called *Craig*, he prefixed his own name to it; hence Scotſcraig. This eſtate was formerly the property, and the houſe the country reſidence, of *Archbiſhop* JAMES SHARP, for many years before his death; and belonged to his ſon Sir William Sharp ſeveral years after the death of the biſhop. His arms are ſtill on the outer gate, dated 1667.

Antiquity.—The only antiquity in the pariſh is the remains of an old caſtle, in which there are ſeveral vaults quite entire. We are greatly at a loſs to know by whom, or at what period it was built, as there is no record to determine, nor even any traditional account handed down concerning it; but it muſt have been after the invention of fire arms, embraſures being ſo placed, as to carry a line of fire round the fort. The top of one of the hills is ſurrounded with the foundation of an old wall. As, from the top of this hill, there is an extenſive proſpect along the banks of the Tay, and the country around, it is ſuppoſed to have been the place of fire ſignal, in the time of the Daniſh incurſions into Scotland; but there is no record about it.

Fuel.—There being neither coals, peats, nor wood, found for fuel, the dependence of the pariſhioners for firing, is upon coals brought from a diſtance, either from the frith of Forth, or by ſea, at a conſiderable expence. What is called the boll, which weighs 8 cwt., or 56 ſtone Engliſh, is ſold here at preſent at 6s. the boll. Though we pay no duty for Scotch coals, they are conſiderably dearer this ſeaſon, than ever they were remembered to have been, which bears hard upon the

people in the lower ranks of life. Some drive coals from the coal-works in this country, at the diſtance of 9 or 10 ſtatute miles, which they ſell at 7s. the cart load. Some of the cottagers, in the country pariſh, burn dryed turf and whins; but they all uſe coal as the principal part of their fuel. The villagers in the Ferry uſe coal only, which they purchaſe at the above prices.

Character.—The people are peaceably diſpoſed, and firmly attached to the preſent happy civil conſtitution of their country. They all adhere to the principles of the eſtabliſhed church of Scotland; and regulatly attend divine worſhip in the pariſh kirk, excepting one Unitarian, (who, however, frequently hears ſermon with the other pariſhioners), and one Seceder; both of whom came lately into this pariſh from Dundee.

Miſcellaneous Obſervations.—There are no lime-ſtone quarries; but lime is brought by ſea from Sunderland. It is ſold at the Ferry at 1s. 6d. Sterling the boll of wheat meaſure, or 2s. 4d. Sterling the barley meaſure. Some drive lime by land carriage, at the diſtance of 10 and 15 miles, which can be afforded at 3s. 1d. the boll, barley meaſure. The only ſtone, got in this ground, is a hard whin ſtone, which makes ſtrong and laſting work when built with good lime.—There are two mills for grinding meal, to which the pariſhioners are thirled only for what meal they make, or what malt is brewed within the pariſh; but not for the whole crop of corn growing on the ſeveral farms.—As there is a conſtant weekly demand for all kinds of country vivres in Dundee, ſome perſons make it their buſineſs to go through this part of the country, and gather them up for the Dundee market. The prices here are, therefore, always regulated by what they fetch there.—

there.—This Ferry is a cuſtom-houſe creek, within the precincts of the cuſtom-houſe at Dundee. As it is the loweſt creek in the river, a King's boat, with 6 boatmen, under the command of a tide ſurveyor, is ſtationed here, to board all veſſels coming up the river from a foreign port, for the ſecurity of the public revenue. It is alſo the reſidence, appointed for the exciſe officer of the *St. Andrew's ſecond ride*, the whole pariſh being in that diviſion.

NUMBER

NUMBER XXVII.

PARISH OF LOGIE.

(*Preſbytery of Cupar—Synod and County of Fife.*)

By the Rev. Mr. ROBERT BOGIE.

Situation and Extent.

THE pariſh of Logie is ſituated about 3 miles from Cupar, (the principal town in the county of Fife, and the ſeat of the preſbytery), and about an equal diſtance from the water ſide, or Ferry, to Dundee. It extends about 2½ miles in length from E. to W., and 1 in breadth from S. to N., though in ſome parts not quite ſo much. The general figure of the pariſh, may be ſeen in Ainſlie's map of Fife.

Surface, Soil, Climate, &c.—The country is in general hilly, but very fertile. The climate is pretty dry and healthy, excepting near the ſmall village of Logie, where there is a marſh, which makes the air damp, eſpecially in winter.—There is a conſiderable mountain in the pariſh, called *Luckla Hill*, upon which, it is reported, that the kings of Scotland uſed to hunt, and on which account it is called *the King's Park*. But of this circumſtance, there is no authentic record extant.—From the top of this hill, in a clear day, there is a very extenſive

ſive proſpect, of Fife, Angus, the Mearns, and other counties.

Cultivation, Produce, Cattle, Wool, &c.—The ground commonly produces excellent crops of every kind of grain. The farmers ſow a conſiderable quantity of graſs and turnips, and have very good returns. They moſtly plow their ground with horſes; and oxen are here very little uſed in huſbandry. There are about 28 ploughs, with generally 2 horſes to a plough, beſides what the farmers bring up for their own uſe, or for ſale. Moſt of them pay a good part of their rents by bringing up young cattle. There are two pretty conſiderable flocks of ſheep in the pariſh. The mutton is ſmall, but the wool they produce is of a tolerable quality, neither of the coarſeſt, nor the fineſt ſort.

Population.—The inhabitants, it is ſaid, are diminiſhed in point of number, compared to what they were many years ago; and it is certain, that ſeveral cottages have been pulled down ſince the commencement of this century; but within theſe 40 years, there appears to be, upon the whole, very little variation. The population, at preſent, conſiſts of 340 examinable perſons; which, allowing the uſual proportion for children under 8 years of age, will make the number of ſouls - - - - - - 425

The return to Dr. Webſter, in 1755, was only - 413

Hence there appears to be an increaſe of - 12

The average of annual births, is	10	Smiths, - - -	4
Ditto of marriages, -	2	Tailors, - - -	2
Ditto of burials, -	8	Retailer of ſpirits, - - -	1
In the different profeſſions there		Weavers, - - -	6
are, farmers, - -	9	And, Shoemakers, - -	3
Feuers, or ſmall proprietors, -	2		

together

together with ſome carpenters, maſons, day labourers, and ſervants.

Proprietors and Rents.—Beſides the three ſmall heritors above mentioned, who reſide in the pariſh, and cultivate their own ground, there are ſix greater proprietors, who do not reſide, which is a conſiderable loſs to the poor. The valued rent is 2916l. 6s. 8d. Scotch; the real rent is not exactly known. The rent of farms, in general, run from 20s. to 40s. per acre. Some however, have their land on more reaſonable terms.

Church, &c.—The manſe was built in 1736, and has ſince got ſeveral partial reparations; but it is ſtill in a very indifferent ſtate. The ſtipend amounts, on an average, to 80l. Sterling per annum. The glebe conſiſts of 4 acres arable, and 2 acres of a den for paſturage. The King is patron*. There are a good many Seceders, who attend a Burgher meeting houſe, in the neighbouring pariſh of Kilmeny.

School and Poor.—A good ſchool and ſchool-houſe are now building, (1792); which, when completed, will be very commodious. The ſalary is only 4l. 18s. 3½d., with 50 merks from a mortification, left in 1690, by Sir James Ramſay, Bart. of Eaſter Logie.—The capital ſtock belonging to the poor amounts to 120l. Serling. The collections at the church doors are but very inconſiderable. There are 3 ſtated penſioners on the poor's funds, who get 1s. per week, and are paid at that rate by

* In 1683, Sir David Balfour of Forret, one of the Senators of the College of Juſtice, bequeathed a large folio Bible, for the uſe of the miniſter on Sundays. It is ſtill in tolerable condition, and was lately rebound.

by the treaſurer every 5 weeks; beſides which, they get 5s. in winter to purchaſe coals. The annual collections, upon an average, including what is drawn on ſacramental occaſions, do not much exceed 5l. Sterling.

Miſcellaneous Obſervations.—The people are in general healthy. There are not a few of 60, 70, and 80 years of age: One man died lately aged 87, and another 92.—The prices of all kinds of proviſions are nearly doubled within theſe 20 years, or even leſs. Good beef, then, ſold at 2d. and 2½d. per pound; mutton at 3d. and a good fowl at 6d.—Coals are the only fuel uſed in this part of the country; but they have become very high of late, which the poor feel very ſenſibly.

NUMBER XXVIII.

PARISH OF CADDER.

(*County of Lanark—Preſbytery of Glaſgow—Synod of Glaſgow and Ayr.*)

By Mr. WILLIAM BARCLAY, *Schoolmaſter.*

Name, Extent, and Situation.

CADDER, the name of this pariſh, is derived from a Gaelic word, and ſaid to ſignify *the Back of the Oak Wood*, which correſponds exactly to the ſituation of *Cadder Houſe*. It is often ſpelt *Calder*. The pariſh is 13 miles in length from E. to W., and between 3 and 4 miles in breadth*. It lies in the northern extremity of the county of Lanark. The 3 counties, Lanark, Dumbarton, and Stirling, all meet at the north point of this pariſh. The neareſt point of it is 3 miles from the city of Glaſgow, within half a mile of the town of Kirkintilloch, and 3 miles from Kilſyth and Cumbernauld. Gartinqueen Hill, in this pariſh, is ſaid to be at an equal diſtance from Hamilton, Falkirk, and Stirling.

River

* There was a map of Cadder drawn in the year 1743, from a ſurvey made by David Dowie, land-ſurveyor in Edinburgh, but it is in few hands.

River and Canal.—The river Kelvin, which riſes eaſt of Kilſyth, runs 6 miles along the northern boundary of the pariſh; but its courſe may be 10 or 12 miles, through fine fertile haugh grounds. It falls into the river Clyde two miles below Glaſgow. The Kelvin uſed to overflow its banks in time of rain, and do conſiderable damage, eſpecially in ſeed time and harveſt; but the proprietors on the north ſide, to whom it did moſt damage, have of late confined it, by a great earthen mound, for the moſt part along its courſe.—It might, however, have been a much more effectual remedy, had they ſtraightened, widened, and ſecured the bed of the river; which would be a great ſaving of ground.—The Forth and Clyde Navigation, commonly called *the Great Canal*, runs through the pariſh for 5 miles, and has 4 draw bridges on it.

Lakes and Roads.—About 80 years ago, a lake, nearly in the middle of the pariſh, was drained by a mine, driven a full mile in length under a hill. The mine is in many places 90 feet below the ſurface, whereby 120 acres of fine arable ground is gained, which annually produces rich crops, without any kind of manure.—There is another lake, called *the Biſhop's Loch*, a mile in length, and one fourth of a mile in breadth, which is at preſent occupied as a reſervoir, by the Great Canal Company.—The poſt road, from Edinburgh to Glaſgow, paſſes 4 miles through this pariſh, and croſſes the Great Canal about a mile eaſt of Cadder kirk. There is alſo a new turnpike road made for 4 miles, in the eaſt end of this pariſh, from Glaſgow by Cumbernauld towards Falkirk, ſaid to be conſiderably ſhorter than the road by Kilſyth and Kirkintilloch, and without a pull.—In 1772, when the heritors met to aſſeſs the pariſh for repairing the bye roads, they found it to contain 123 ploughgates of land. They aſſeſſed each of theſe ploughgates in 10s. Sterling, and 1s. 6d. for every cottager,

yearly. In 1791, finding the above aſſeſſment inſufficient for making the extent of road neceſſary, they raiſed it to 18s. Sterling per annum, and 2s. to every cottager, agreeable to an act of parliament for repairing roads in the county of Lanark.

Minerals.—There are a number of freeſtone quarries in the pariſh. The ſtones are very fit for building, and take a fine poliſh. There are alſo vaſt quantities of whin rocks, very proper materials for roads. We have an inexhauſtible rock of limeſtone, which has of late been wrought to a conſiderable extent, both at Grankirk and Robroyſtone.—No *coal*, fit for working, has yet been diſcovered, though it is the opinion of miners, and people of ſkill, that the ſeams of coal, which have been wrought to ſo great advantage, in New Monkland on the E. and New Kirkpatrick on the W. extend through this pariſh. It is to be hoped, that ſome public ſpirited gentleman will ſearch for, and find this hidden treaſure.

Rent, Soil, Cultivation, Produce, &c.—The valuation of the whole pariſh, is 6270l. Scotch; and the preſent yearly rent, may be about 6000l. Sterling.—There is no mountain in this pariſh. The whole face of the diſtrict is generally level. Yet we have ſeveral different ſoils; ſuch as, light ſandy till, deep earth, and plenty of moſs for *fuel*.—Improvement of land has greatly increaſed of late, and is ſtill going on very rapidly, both by the plough and by manure. Excellent crops of oats, barley, clover, and rye graſs, potatoes and flax, are produced. Oats have ſold, before reaping, at 8l. 2s 6d. per acre, and yielded 16 bolls each acre. Potatoes are much cultivated here, and ſerved up at every table. They are a ſubſtitute for bread, among the lower claſs of people, for at leaſt 10 months in the year; and, with very little attention, they make the old crop laſt, till it is ſucceeded by the new: 100 bolls have been raiſed

raiſed from 1 acre.—But flax is the moſt advantageous crop here: 200 acres are ſown annually; and this year (1792), one farmer has ſown 30 acres with flax ſeed: 32 ſtones of good ſcutched flax have been raiſed from 1 acre, and ſold at a guinea the ſtone; a price perhaps equal to the value of the land on which it grew. Riga flax ſeed, and the fineſt kinds of Dutch ſeed are moſtly ſown here; though ſome good crops of flax have been raiſed from Boſton flax ſeed. On rich moiſt ſoil, the fineſt flax is raiſed from American ſeed. Fine Dutch, and large plump America flax ſeed are reckoned to agree beſt with this climate. The quantities, commonly ſown on 1 acre, are, 9½ pecks Dutch, 8½ Riga, and 8 America flax ſeed; this laſt being much ſmaller than the others.—The improvements in agriculture, in this neighbourhood, are much owing to the Great Canal *. Before it was erected, neither ſpade nor barrow was uſed to any purpoſe. Now, the wheel-barrow, plank, and ſpade, are found at every farmer's door; and, by the proper uſe of theſe utenſils, much work is expeditiouſly performed.

Eccleſiaſtical State.—The whole of this pariſh, excepting the barony of Cadder, and the Midtown of Bedlay, formerly belonged to the ſubdeanry of Glaſgow. The Biſhop's Land was called the *Baldermonoch Ward* (or *Monk's Town*), and comprehends ten townſhips; each of which contains 8 ploughgates of land. The mill of Bedlay is ſtill the joint property of theſe 10 townſhips. From this eccleſiaſtical tenure, are derived the names of ſeveral places in the pariſh; ſuch as, the *Biſhop's Bridge*, the *Biſhop's Moſs*, and the *Biſhop's Loch*.—After the

* The only objection to the Great Canal, is, that it has been fatal to ſo many. No fewer than ſeven, within the bounds of this pariſh, have been drowned in it ſince it was opened.

the Reformation, the temporalities of the ſubdeanry of Glaſgow, which conſiſted of the pariſhes of Cadder and Monkland, (the laſt of which was afterwards ſplit into two pariſhes, called *Old* and *New Monkland*), together with the patronage of the churches, came into the poſſeſſion of the noble families of Hamilton and Kilmarnock, and were by them transferred to the College of Glaſgow, for a conſiderable ſum of money, about the year 1656.—The pariſh of Cadder, as well as that of Monkland, availing itſelf of the act of Parliament 1690, by paying 600 merks Scotch, as directed in the act, to the College of Glaſgow, obtained a renunciation of the right of patronage by that learned body; in conſequence of which, the heritors and elders of the pariſh became the electors of the miniſter. It is a pity, however, that the act 1690 has not defined preciſely *what conſtitutes an heritor*; for this defect has been attended with great inconveniences to the pariſh of Cadder. When the church of Cadder was formerly vacant, about the year 1745, there were keen diſputes as to the title of ſeveral perſons claiming a right to vote under the character of heritors; in conſequence of which, the kirk was vacant for near two years. And though the late worthy clergyman, who ſucceeded on the occaſion, died in June 1790, the church ſtill continues vacant, owing to a warm *diſpute*, with reſpect to the title of a number, who voted at a late election of a miniſter, and which is at preſent under litigation before the Court of Seſſion. It ought however to be mentioned, that the College of Glaſgow, who are ſtill titulars of the tiends, upon application being made to them, generouſly conſented, much to their honour, as well as to the benefit of this pariſh, to allow part of the vacant ſtipend to be laid out, in paying the expence of a preacher, to officiate at Cadder church during the vacancy, under the direction of the preſbytery of Glaſgow.—The living is 8 chalders, paid in money by the College of Glaſgow, according to

the

the ſiars of the commiſſariot of Hamilton and Campſie, half a chalder for communion elements, with a manſe, and about $3\frac{1}{2}$ acres for a glebe, beſide graſs for a horſe and 2 cows on the common.—The manſe was built in 1656, and enlarged and ſlated in 1714, at the joint expence of the College of Glaſgow, and the former and then preſent miniſter. It is now in a ruinous condition. The church was rebuilt in 1750, but not finiſhed compleatly till 1784, and is now in good condition.

Poor.—The number on the poor's roll is about 15 annually; moſtly aged and infirm women, who have from 6d. to 1s. Sterling weekly. Occaſional aſſiſtance is given likewiſe to poor families, of from 5s. to 10s. Sterling at a time. No public charity is given to any that go about begging, except now and then a pair of ſhoes.—The poor's funds ariſe from the collections at the church doors, 2s. 6d. for every marriage, aud the intereſt of about 300l. Sterling, mortified to the kirk ſeſſion. Theſe funds have continued, without much increaſe or diminution, for near 50 years paſt.

Schools.—There are 4 public ſchools in this pariſh, 3 of which have ſmall ſalaries annexed to them. (1.) The pariſh ſchoolmaſter has a ſalary of 100 merks Scotch, paid by the heritors, and 1l. 3s. 4d. Sterling, as ſeſſion-clerk and precentor; with 1s. 8d. for each marriage, and 9d. for each baptiſm; beſides the ordinary ſchool wages, of 1s. 6d. per quarter. (2.) In 1744, Mr. Patrick Baird, merchant, left a memorial worthy of record, bequeathing 325l. Sterling for erecting a ſchool at Auchenloch, the place of his nativity. He devoted 15l. Sterling of the intereſt to be paid annually to the ſchoolmaſter; and 1l. 5s. to a young man, for preaching a ſermon at Auchenloch on Chriſtmas (which was the donor's birth day), and to buy books and *buns* (rolls) for the ſcholars. To this donation,

tion, John Baird, late of Auchenloch, added a piece of ground for a houſe and garden. All the heritors, poſſeſſed of a plough of land in the pariſh, are patrons of this ſchool. (3.) In 1745, Mr. James Warden, late miniſter of this pariſh, bequeathed 1000 merks Scotch to the ſeſſion; the intereſt of which is allotted to the ſupport of a ſchool at Auchenairn, the place of his nativity. In 1760, the worthy and humane Dr. William Leechman, late principal of the Univerſity of Glaſgow, diſponed to the ſeſſion of Cadder, about half an acre of ground, for a houſe and garden for the benefit of this ſchool, of which the miniſter and elders are patrons. (4.) The fourth ſchool-houſe is at Chryſtone, in the eaſt end of the pariſh, where a chapel of eaſe was built by ſubſcription 11 years ago; but there is no ſalary annexed to it, nor any perquiſite for the maſter, excepting the ſchool wages, 1s. 6d. per quarter.

At each of theſe 4 ſchools, there may be, at an average, 30 ſcholars during the winter half year, and 20 through the ſummer quarter. When there is any vacancy in the harveſt, the *ſchoolmaſter's year* is only reckoned *three quarters!!!*— Thus 100 ſchoolars, for three quarters, at 1s. 6d. per quarter, pay only 22l. 10s. Sterling per annum, to all the 4 ſchoolmaſters in the pariſh, for education, which is but 5l. 12s. 6d. Sterling to each of them for 9 months attendance. This is ſurely too little to ſupport, with any decency, a claſs of men confeſſedly uſeful, in this expenſive and wealthy age*. To better the condition of the people of this country, more

3 encou-

* About 50 years ago, it was the cuſtom here, to allow the pariſh ſchoolmaſter to go about with the ſcholars, and lodge free with their parents, as he had no houſe of his own to teach or lodge in, but a barn in ſummer, and a cottage in winter. Of late, however, the gentlemen in this pariſh have built a ſchool-houſe, in a corner of the church yard, where the preſent ſchoolmaſter lives, who has ſerved in that office for 39 years. One of his predeceſſors (William Stirling), officiated here 41 years. Both are natives of Cadder pariſh.

encouragement ſhould be given to teachers, to enable them to pay proper attention, to improve the morals of youth nder their care. The want of this, muſt more or leſs affect the education of the riſing generation. When an attempt was made, ſome time ago, to have the condition of the ſchoolmaſters of this country ſomewhat bettered, the argument, by which ſome lords and gentlemen oppoſed it, was, that " they wiſhed " pariſh ſchools were ſuppreſſed altogether, becauſe their ſer- " vants were *corrupted*, by being taught to *read* and *write*: " That they would be more *obedient* and *dutiful*, were they " more *ignorant*, and had no education†."—This, however, is not the opinion of any gentleman in this pariſh. They well know, that ſome of the firſt and moſt reſpectable characters, in the nation, have been trained up at country ſchools.

Antiquities.—The Roman Wall, or *Graham's Dike*, is almoſt the only antiquity we have in this pariſh. It runs 4 miles in it, and may ſtill be traced through Cadder Wood. One of the watch towers, on the ſouth ſide of the wall, about a gun-ſhot from Cadder kirk, is ſtill very viſible.—At Robroyſtone, in this pariſh, on the 11th September 1303, Sir WILLIAM WALLACE was betrayed and apprehended, by Sir John Monteath, a favourite of King Edward I. of England, by whom he was moſt unjuſtly and ignominiouſly put to

† This illiberal idea is refuted by fact. That *ignorance* cannot be the mother of *morality*, more than of *devotion*, is proved by experience. The good behaviour of the lower ranks in Scotland, in general, contraſted with the immoralities, crimes, and annual executions, of many of the ſame claſs, in the ſiſter kingdom, can be aſcribed to nothing ſo much as to the ſuperior advantages, the former enjoy, of early education, and proper inſtruction, in the firſt principles of moral and and religious duty. Deprive them of theſe, and they will ſoon become as great ſavages, as the moſt ignorant rabble of *London*, *Paris*, or *Birmingham*.

death at London. After he was overpowered, and before his hands were bound, it is ſaid, he threw his ſword into Robroyſtone loch. An oaken *couple*, or joiſt, which made part of the barn, in which the Scotch hero was taken, is ſtill to be ſeen in this neighbourhood, and may yet laſt for ages.

The following STATISTICAL TABLE, which was taken very accurately from houſe to houſe, by the Pariſh Schoolmaſter (who travelled 300 miles through the pariſh, collecting theſe materials, in May 1792), ſhews

The POPULATION, &c. of the Pariſh of CADDER.

Number of inhabited houſes,	390	Population as returned to Dr.	
——— empty do. - -	12	Webſter in 1755, - -	2396
——— females, - -	925	Number of ſouls, in 1792, -	1767
——— males, - -	842	Decreaſe, -	629
Majority of females, -	83		

Perſons born in the pariſh, -	842	Wages of inferior do.	L.12 0 0*
——— under 6 years of age,	222	——— beſt maid ſervants, -	6 0 0*
——— above 70 years, -	50	——— inferior do.	4 0 0*
Average of each family, -	4½	——— manufacturers per day,	0 2 3†
Annual average of births for 20 years paſt, - -	43	——— day labourers, per day, -	0 1 6
Ditto of marriages for that time, - - -	15	Number of horſes, -	377
Average produce of each, -	3	——— cows, -	1285
Wages of the beſt plowman by the year,	L. 16 0 0*	——— ſheep, -	139

Number

* * * * *N. B. Theſe are their wages beſides their victuals.*

† *When on piece-work, they make more; ſome from* 30*l.* *to* 50*l. Sterling.*

Number of ſwine,	41	Number of burying places, beſides Cadder churchyard,	6
—— dogs,	202	—— corn mills,	4
—— carts,	284	—— lint do.	3
—— ploughs,	138	—— dove cotes ¶,	6
—— weavers looms,	158	—— families, all born in the pariſh,	6
—— watches,	107		
—— clocks,	110		
—— ſlated houſes ‡,	18		
—— public do. §,	15		

Miſcellaneous Obſervations.—From the preceding table it appears, that not one half of the inhabitants have been born in the pariſh:—That nearly one eighth of them are under ſix years of age:—That there is a dog, a clock, or a watch, for every houſe in the pariſh:—That there is a cart, or a plough, for every houſe:—And that there is nearly one horſe, and more than three cows, for every houſe in it. The cows are very productive. The produce of one cow has brought the owner 10l. Sterling in the year.—There is only 1 four wheeled carriage in the pariſh.—There is a threſhing machine, which, with 4 men and 3 horſes, will threſh from 8 to 10 bolls each hour.—The oldeſt man in the pariſh is 94 years of age. There are 2 men ſtill alive, both of the name of *William Gray*, who have been each married to their preſent wives 58 years.—There was a working maſon in this pariſh, whoſe wife brought him 18 children; and a noble lady has born 23 children to one huſband.—The people here are not fond of a ſeafaring life, and but few inliſt into the army; though, of late, 11

‡ *One half of theſe have been lately built.*

§ *There were formerly only two.*

¶ *The doves in each of theſe are ſuppoſed to deſtroy 20 bolls of grain annually, which is 120 bolls loſt to the farmers, on an average, per annum.*

handſome young fellows have joined the Train. One of them is 6 feet 3 inches high.—The inhabitants here ſhewed great averſion to anſwer any queſtion, tending to diſcover the real ſtate of their ſtock, cattle, or population. An apprehenſion of *new taxes*, *new wars*, and of raiſing *new armies*, ſeemed to be the chief cauſe of their unwillingneſs to communicate information on theſe ſubjects.

NUMBER

NUMBER XXIX.

PARISH OF MUTHIL.

(*County of Perth—Preſbytery of Auchterarder—Synod of Perth and Stirling.*)

By the Rev. Mr. JOHN SCOTT, *Miniſter.*

Name, Situation, and Extent.

MUTHIL is ſituated on the borders of the Highlands; and as the names of almoſt all the places around are Gaelic, and generally deſcriptive of their local ſituation, it probably takes its name from an Erſe word, of ſomewhat a ſimilar ſound, which ſignifies *the north ſide of the hill.*—The pariſh is of an irregular ſhape, but one of the moſt populous of the whole country; and is of great extent, being from 8 to 10 miles in length, and from 6 to 9 in breadth.—The *village*, where the *kirk* ſtands, which gives its name to the pariſh, is upon the great military road, leading to Inverneſs by Tay Bridge. It is 4 miles ſouth from Crief, 17 from Stirling, and nearly the ſame diſtance from Perth. Before the Reformation, it was the reſidence of the Dean of Dumblane, and in after times, the ſeat of a preſbytery, which now meets at Auchterarder, being more in the center of the diſtrict.

Soil,

Soil and Surface.—In ſo large a pariſh, the ſurface, as may naturally be ſuppoſed, is made up of flat and riſing grounds, of hills and valleys; ſo that the ſoil in one place, muſt needs differ widely from that in another. In the S. W. part of the pariſh, there are many thouſand acres, at preſent thought unfit for cultivation, being completely covered over with heath, or with deep moſs. For many miles, the haughs on the Earn, and alſo on the Water of Allan, are, for the moſt part, a light loam, on a gravelly or ſandy bottom, which, with lime or marle, produces excellent crops. The higher grounds lie upon beds of till, naturally wet, but, when drained, they are, by the above mentioned manures, rendered no leſs productive.

Cultivation.—Since the year 1770, large *marle pits* have been diſcovered in both ſides of the pariſh, and much lime has been uſed in agriculture. Almoſt every farmer lays down a field annually with graſs ſeeds, and finds his account in it. Leſs ground is now plowed up, more cattle and horſes are reared, and four times the quantity of grain is produced. The *tenants* are therefore in a thriving condition, and the peaſantry, in general, are induſtrious, ſober, and contented in their ſtations.—Not only has much arable land been meliorated, but what is ſtill more worthy of notice, between 1000 and 1200 acres (in their former ſtate good for little), have, within theſe laſt 30 years, been incloſed and planted with trees of various kinds, that now ſerve to adorn, and, ere long, will enrich the country; by affording uſeful timber, beſides fuel, at an eaſy rate, to thouſands, who derive but little advantage from their moſſes, and live at a great diſtance from coal pits.

Climate and Diſeaſes.—As the pariſh abounds in wood, and wood and water, the air is in general moiſt, and many ſitua-

tions

tions are damp; yet, upon the whole, the people are tolerably healthy, and live to a good old age. Many, that are between 60 and 70, work as day labourers; numbers of others, between 70 and 80 years of age, are going about their ordinary buſineſs. A man died lately, ſome years above 90. The moſt common diſeaſes are fevers, rheumatiſms, and conſumptions. At times, the meaſles and hooping cough carry off many infants. But the ſmall pox (formerly ſo fatal to children), by the improved mode of treatment, deſtroys very few. Inoculation is now very common among all ranks; and the prejudices of the vulgar, againſt this moſt ſalutary operation, are at an end. The Commiſſioners on the Annexed Eſtates paid a ſurgeon, for inoculating the children of the tenants and of the poor. Some hundreds were inoculated at a time, and every one of them recovered. It muſt give pleaſure to add, that the preſent proprietor of the Perth eſtate continues to employ a ſurgeon, for the ſame benevolent purpoſe; and alſo to attend the parents that are poor, when they ſtand in need of medical aſſiſtance. An example well worthy of imitation!

Birds and Quadrupeds.—There are in the pariſh, plenty of partridges, moorfowl and ſnipes; alſo a few heath cocks, or black cocks; and, at particular ſeaſons of the year, vaſt numbers of plovers, woodcocks, wild ducks, wild geeſe and teals. —There are abundance of hares, rabbits, foxes, badgers and polecats, bred in the pariſh. At this time, there are no wild deer; but as the horns of both the elke and foreſt deer, of a very large ſize, have of late been found in marle pits, on both ſides of the pariſh, and as the head and horns of the *urus*, (the *bos ferus* of Linnæus), or mountain bull, were lately dug up at the ſide of a ſmall lake, near Drummond Caſtle, it plainly

plainly ſhews, that foreſt deer, and the other animals, now ſo little known, once frequented this part of the country.

Rivers and Fiſh.—The river *Ern*, or *Earn*, flows from a beautiful lake, in a neighbouring pariſh to the weſtward, and glides along the north and eaſt ſide of the pariſh, in a meandering courſe, for many miles. It gives name to one of the moſt beautiful vales in Scotland, called *Strathern.*

Beſides the Ern, there are in this pariſh the rivers, or waters, of *Machany*, *Knaick*, and *Allan ;* all of which abound with fine trouts, of a large ſize. In ſome parts of the Ern, there are pike; and, in ſome ſeaſons of the year, great numbers of ſea trouts, from 3lb. to 6lb. weight. The fiſhermen call them *whitlings*, on account of the ſcales they have, at their firſt coming up the river from the ſea. They are reckoned an excellent fiſh at the tables of the gentry; and afford good ſport to the angler with fly. Large *ſalmon* are found in this river, as high as up Lochern, although there no leſs than 5 dikes, quite acroſs from bank to bank, at the diſtance of ſome miles from one another, with wooden traps in the middle, where the water runs deepeſt, for catching the ſalmon, and the larger ſea trouts, in their way up the river. Theſe traps are, or ought to be, taken up every week, from Saturday evening till Monday morning; which are the only times theſe fiſh can paſs through, unleſs the river is ſo full as to allow them to overleap the dikes, which ſeldom happens during the fiſhing ſeaſon. Below the dikes, near the junction of the Ern and the Tay, there are ſalmon fiſhing places, which rent at a high price.

Lakes, Roads, and Bridges.—The lake above mentioned, is called the *Loch of Balloch*, and is the only one in the pariſh. It is about half a mile round, and from it flows a ſmall ſtream, upon

upon which a flax mill is placed, a little above the place where it falls into the Ern.—There are ſeveral county roads in the pariſh; but the moſt remarkable one, is the great military one, from Stirling, by Crief, to Inverneſs, which runs the whole breadth of the pariſh for 8 or 9 miles, croſſing the Allan, the Knaick, the Machany, and the Ern, over each of which rivers there is a ſtone bridge.

Population.—The marriages have, for 20 years paſt, been, on an average, from 30 to 36. The exact number of baptiſms cannot ſo eaſily be aſcertained. This is chiefly owing to the negligence of thoſe who are not of our communion, or are connected with a chapel of eaſe in a diſtant part, and who ſeldom think of ſending their children's names to be put on the pariſh regiſter. There are however from 80 to 90 baptiſms recorded annually. No regiſter of burials having been kept, it is difficult to ſay, in what proportion births and burials ſtand to each other: But it is a certain fact, that the population has increaſed very conſiderably ſince the year 1770; for at that period the population ſtood as follows:

Examinable perſons of the Eſtabliſhed Church,	1850
Children under 7 years of age,	390
Diſſenters, young and old, about	400
In all,	2640

Whereas, by a liſt lately taken, it appears, that there are at preſent in the pariſh,

Examinable perſons of the Church of Scotland,	2160
Children under 7 years of age,	430
Old and young of the Church of England,	156
——— Preſbyterian Diſſenters,	160
——— Roman Catholics,	42
Total,	2948
Increaſe within theſe laſt 22 years,	308

Previous to the year 1770, however, the number had decreased; for the return to Dr. Webster, about 15 years before, was,

Protestants of all persuasions and ages, - - - - -	2843
Papists, - - - - - - - -	59
In all, -	2902
The increase upon the whole, therefore, within these last 37 years, is only - - - - - - -	46

The late rapid increase has been partly owing to the division and subdivision of farms, (which was frequently the case, while the Perth estate was in the hands of the commissioners); and partly to the enlargement of the village of Muthil.

Village.—In 1770, *Muthil* contained only about 50 or 60 families; but since that period, so many new feus have been given off and built, and so many small old houses have been taken down and rebuilt, upon a larger scale, that it now consists of about 140 houses and rooms, that contain separate families; so that the number of souls, on a moderate calculation, is upwards of 400; whereas formerly, the whole number did not exceed 200, at the utmost.

Professions.—There are about 50 mechanics of different kinds in this village; 6 shopkeepers, and 7 or 8 public houses; the rest chiefly consist of day labourers, and their families; widows, who have resorted hither for the education of their children; and old unmarried women, who have retired from service. There is no writer, surgeon, or physician in the parish. When legal or medical assistance is needed, application is made to those at Crief or Dumblane.

Rent and Heritors.—The valued rent of the parish is 7784l. 10s. Scotch; the real rent is upwards of 4000l. Sterling.—

ling.—There are 11 *heritors*, many of whom have but little property in the pariſh; Mr. Drummond of Perth being proprietor of more than two thirds of it. Three of them are conſtant reſidenters: other three have houſes, at which they reſide occaſionally; all of whom deſerve great praiſe for what they have done, in planting, incloſing, and otherwiſe improving, the fields that lie around their ſeats.

Church, &c.—The *church* is an old fabric, that has ſtood for ſome centuries, and has often been repaired. It is ſaid to have been built by Ochiltree Biſhop of Dumblane, before the Reformation: The preciſe year is not known. It has however all the marks of antiquity: The roof is ſupported by a double row of pillars, with aiſles on each ſide; and there is a ſquare ſteeple at the weſt end; directly oppoſite to which, there is in the eaſt end a quire, which is a narrow building, with a large Gothic window. Near to it, are ſtill to be ſeen the veſtiges of three ſteps up to the altar.—The *manſe* is a little out of the village and was rebuilt about 9 or 10 years ago. The glebe conſiſts of 8 acres, and the ſtipend is about 100 guineas*.—The *patronage* is in the Crown, as coming in the room of the Biſhop of Dumblane. Beſides the pariſh church, there are other three places of worſhip, viz. a chapel of eaſe, a church of England meeting houſe, and a Popiſh chapel. There are alſo the remains of a Roman catholic church at Strageath, and a chapel 2 miles to the ſouthward.

*The preſent miniſter is Mr. John Scott, who ſucceeded his father in April 1767, whoſe predeceſſor was Mr. William Hally, the firſt Preſbyterian miniſter after the Revolution, and who, for ſeveral years after his ordination, was obliged to preach from a tent in the church-yard, while the Epiſcopal incumbent kept poſſeſſion of the church.

Schools.—There are in the pariſh 3 ſchools, at which about 300 boys and girls are annually educated. At the *parochial ſchool* there are often about 100, many of whom come from diſtant parts of the country; and at each of the other two ſchools from 60 to 80. One of theſe ſchools has been eſtabliſhed by the Society for propagating Chriſtian Knowledge, with a ſalary of 12l. There, 30 or 40 boys and girls are annually taught *gratis*. The other ſchoolmaſter is precentor at the *chapel of eaſe*, lately built on the ſouth ſide of the pariſh, and has a ſmall ſalary, but chiefly depends upon the profits of his ſchool.

Poor.—In a pariſh ſo extenſive, where the farms are ſmall, and where there are many day labourers and cottagers, ſituated at a diſtance from fuel, there is, as may naturally be ſuppoſed, a great number of poor. At preſent there are upwards of 20, who receive a monthly ſupply, and perhaps 30 more, who receive a little now and then from the pariſh funds. There are alſo ſome poor families, who, once a year, get what may ſerve to pay their houſe rent, to clothe one or more of their children, or to buy a few coals.—The *funds* conſiſt of the collections at the church, which amount to about 30l. per annum :—The mortcloth dues, the rent of a few ſeats in the church, and intereſt of money, make about 18l. or 19l. more; to which the heritors (much to their honour), add 20l. Sterling, amounting, in whole, to within a trifle of 70l. Sterling; which, with what is given by the family at Drummond Caſtle, over and above Mr. Drummond's ſhare, in common with other heritors, ſerves to keep the poor (in that neighbourhood), at home, without begging from door to door.

Antiquities.—There are two *Roman camps* in the pariſh; one at Strageath, and another at Ardoch; beſides ſeveral forts of obſervation.

obſervation. The camp at *Strageath* is ſituated on the banks of the Ern, near Innerpefray. Its dimenſions cannot now be aſcertained with any degree of exactneſs; the lines and ditches being completely levelled, except in a few places. But from what remains, it ſeems not to have been ſtrongly fortified. From its ſize, too, it appears to have been only a temporary ſtation for a ſmall army.

The *camp at Ardoch*, as being the moſt complete of any in Scotland, or perhaps in Great Britain, is entitled to a more particular deſcription. Its ſituation gave it many advantages; being on the N. W. ſide of a deep moſs, that runs a long way eaſtward. On the weſt ſide, it is partly defended by the ſteep banks of the water of Knaick; which bank riſes perpendicularly between 40 and 50 feet. The north and eaſt ſides were moſt expoſed; and there, we find, very particular care was taken to ſecure them. The ground on the eaſt is pretty regular, and deſcends by a gentle ſlope from the lines of fortification, which, on that ſide, conſiſt of five rows of ditches, perfectly entire, and running parallel to one another. Theſe altogether are about 55 yards in breadth. On the north ſide there are an equal number of lines and ditches, but 20 yards broader than the former. On the weſt, beſides the ſteep precipices above mentioned, it was defended by at leaſt two ditches. One is ſtill viſible; the others have probably been filled up, in making the great military road from Stirling to the North.

The ſide of the camp, lying to the ſouthward, exhibits to the antiquary a leſs pleaſing proſpect. Here the peaſant's rugged hand has laid in ruins a great part of the lines; ſo that it may be with propriety ſaid, in the words of a Latin poet, "*Jam ſeges eſt, ubi Troja fuit* *." However, from the remains yet to be traced, it appears there were alſo 3 or 4 ditches,

* *Ovidii Epiſtolæ.*

4 ditches, which, with its natural advantages, rendered this ſide as ſtrong and as ſecure as any of the others. The 4 entries croſſing the lines, at right angles, are ſtill diſtinctly to be ſeen.

The area of the camp is an oblong of 140 yards, by 125 within the lines. The *General's Quarter* riſes above the level of the camp, but is not in the center. It is a regular ſquare, each ſide being exactly 20 yards. At preſent, it exhibits evident marks of having been incloſed with a ſtone wall, and contains the foundations of a houſe, 10 yards by 7. That a place of worſhip has been erected here, is not improbable, as it has obtained the name of *Chapel Hill* from time immemorial.

Beſides the camp above mentioned, ſo completely fortified both by nature and art, (and which is ſuppoſed to have been formed by *Agricola*, for the Roman legions under his command,) there are other two encampments adjoining to it, and having a communication with one another, containing above 130 acres of ground. Theſe ſeem to have been defended by only a ſingle ditch and rampart, and probably were intended for the cavalry and auxiliaries. Here was room for all the forces, that fought under Agricola near the Grampian mountains, notwithſtanding what has been ſaid by Mr. Gordon, in his *Itinerarium Septentrionale*, to the contrary; who probably imagined, as others have done ſince, that the whole ground at Ardoch, fortified by the Romans, lay within the ſmall camp above mentioned.

It has already been obſerved, that the two large encampments had a communication with one another; and, that there was a ſubterraneous paſſage from the ſmall one, under the bed of the river, is more than probable, from a circumſtance now to be mentioned. There was a *hole* near the ſide of the *prætorium*, that went in a ſloping direction for many fathoms; in

in which, it was generally believed, treaſures, as well as Roman antiquities, might be found. In order to aſcertain this fact, a man, who had been condemned by the baron court of a neighbouring lord, upon obtaining a pardon, agreed to be let down by a rope into this hole. He at firſt brought up with him, from a great depth, Roman ſpears, helmets, fragments of bridles, and ſeveral other articles: But upon being let down a ſecond time, was killed by *foul air*. No attempts have been made ſince that time. The articles, above mentioned, lay at the houſe of Ardoch for many years, but were all carried off, by ſome of the ſoldiers in the Duke of Argyll's army, in 1715, after the battle of Sheriffmuir, and could never afterwards be recovered. The mouth of the hole was covered up with a millſtone, by an old gentleman, who lived at the houſe of Ardoch, while the family were in Ruſſia, about the year 1720, to prevent hares from running into it, when purſued by his dogs; and as earth, to a conſiderable depth, was laid over the millſtone, the place cannot now be found, although diligent ſearch has been made for it.

When the Ardoch Family returned to the country, the camp was uſed as paſture ground for cattle; and, by Sir William Stirling, the preſent proprietor, has been incloſed with a high ſtone wall, that it may never again ſuffer by a ploughſhare. He has alſo prohibited the tenants from plowing up, or otherwiſe demoliſhing, any part of the remaining lines or ramparts round the two larger camps. He has now an urn, perfectly entire, which was dug up near the weſt ſide of the *prætorium*, or general's quarters, containing aſhes, and ſome ſmall pieces of a human ſkull *.

Drummond

* A number of *ſtone coffins*, with ſkeletons in them, were not long ago found, in forming a road by the ſide of the camp to the houſe of Ardoch. In a cairn, about a mile to the weſtward, no leſs than 182 feet in length, 30 feet in a ſloping height, and 45 feet in breadth at the baſe, there was found a ſtone coffin,

Drummond Caſtle.—The building moſt worthy of notice is the old Caſtle of Drummond, the ancient ſeat of the noble family of Perth. It ſtands upon a rock, about a mile to the weſtward of the military road, and was built in the year 1490. It was unroofed and partly demoliſhed in 1689; yet the walls in ſome places were ſo ſtrong and entire, that a part of them have been lately repaired, and fitted up for a library, by the preſent proprietor. The houſe, in which the family have reſided

ſin, in which there was a ſkeleton 7 feet long. The cairn lay from north to ſouth, and the coffin was nearly in the middle of it, with the head to the eaſt. Moſt of the ſtones have been carried away to incloſe the neighbouring farms; but the coffin, with a few large ſtones around it, has, by order of Sir William Stirling, been preſerved.

There are, in ſome places, the remains of *Druidical temples*, and there are many ſingle large ſtones that ſtand up on end, 10, 12, and ſome 14 feet in height. They are generally on elevated ſituations, and of a grey colour; poſſibly ſome of thoſe, celebrated by the Gaelic bard, which mark the grave of a chief, or the place where he fell in battle: "Theſe may be the ſtones of re-"nown, raiſed to the ſoul that never melted before, but was like the ſteel of "his ſword *."

There is in the pariſh a Roman road or cauſeway, a great part of which is now covered over with heath, leading from Ardoch to a fort of obſervation, called *Camp's Caſtle*, ſituated on the top of the Muir of Orchil, the lines of which are ſtill very diſtinct. There is alſo another fort of obſervation, larger, but not ſo entire as the one above mentioned, which is ſituated to the northward of the houſe of Orchil.

It is worthy of notice, that, cloſe by Drummond Caſtle, there is a ſmall rock, called *Eagle's Craig*, and, by the country people, *Beacon Hill*, from whence a fire in the night might be ſeen, at the diſtance of 40 or 50 miles to the eaſtward. The top of it is flat, and covered with aſhes to a conſiderable depth. It is within two miles of Strageath, and may be ſeen from Camp's Caſtle, and from almoſt every part of a Roman road or cauſeway, running from Strageath for miles together, eaſtward, in a ſtraight line, to the parks of Gaſk, where there are ſtill the remains of a Roman ſtation. From which it is evident, that this rock has been a place of ſignals, and hence derived its name.

* *Timora.*

reſided for a century bygone, and in which it now reſides, is on the ſame rock with the Caſtle, a little to the eaſtward. It is a plain building, that had originally been intended as only a temporary lodging, but is now enlarged, and made very convenient; and although an old houſe modernized, (like many other ſeats in the pariſh), yet its pleaſant ſituation, and its beautiful and unbounded proſpect to the eaſtward, attract the notice and the admiration of every ſtranger.

Miſcellaneous Obſervations.—There are in the pariſh 5 or 6 ſtills, of 40 gallons each, for making whiſky. There are 8 meal mills of old ſtanding, and 4 flax mills, three of which have been erected but lately. Beſides theſe, ſince 1770, there have been built in the pariſh, 5 mills for threſhing corn, 2 of which are driven by water. There is alſo an oil mill, and a cotton work upon a ſmall ſcale.—There is 1 coach; 6 four wheeled chaiſes, and 1 ſingle horſe chaiſe, in the pariſh.—Since the period above mentioned, the prices of labour and proviſions, have increaſed more in proportion, than they have done in moſt other places; owing partly to the number of gentlemen, that now reſide in the country, and partly to the thriving ſtate of the tenantry. At that time, the higheſt wages the farmers gave to an able bodied man ſervant, did not exceed 4l. or at moſt 5l. Sterling; and female ſervants had from 25s. to 35s. per annum: whereas now, the men's wages are from 7l. to 10l., and the women's wages from 2l. 10s. to 3l. 10. A day labourer can now earn 1s. per day in the ſummer, and in autumn as much, beſides his victuals, whoſe wages formerly never exceeded the half of that ſum. Butcher meat, which could then be bought for 2d., is now 4d. per pound. Hens, chickens, and eggs are more than double the price they were formerly; and ten times the quantity of all thoſe articles is now uſed.—The ſtrongeſt winds blow from the S. W., and the coldeſt from the

E. and N. E.; whilſt the Grampian Hills, which riſe to a great height, at the diſtance of a few miles, not only ſcreen from the northern blaſts, but likewiſe attract the clouds ſo often, that in many places of the pariſh, eſpecially on the banks of the Ern, and to the ſouthward, there is clear ſunſhine, while heavy ſhowers of rain and ſnow are falling thick, in the neighbouring parts, to the northward.

Upon the whole, there are few places, that have more local advantages than Strathern: But, what the people, in this part of the country, chiefly ſtand in need of, is a COAL PIT, which, if they had, there would be no ſituation more agreeable. Good roads are now making to all the market towns; and large plantations of uſeful trees are faſt advancing; which, in time, will pave the way to the introduction of manufactures, and will keep at home numbers of young people, (who at preſent are obliged to ſeek employment in diſtant parts); as well as afford opportunities, for the riſing generation, to acquire thoſe habits of induſtry, in early life, which may ſerve to render them uſeful members of ſociety, in their riper years*.

NUMBER

* As a mill-ſtone is ſaid to cover a hole or depoſit, where Roman antiquities have been found, and where more may ſtill lie concealed, it appears to be no way difficult, to find out the pit by the means of the mill-ſtone; and it is very deſirable to explore it, notwithſtanding the foul air it may now contain. Fire is often cauſed by means to prove the air. Perpendicular ſhafts may be worked to a very great depth, without requiring any renovation of air, by the means of pipes. If, therefore, this pit contains foul air, at a ſmall depth, it is, moſt probably, from the nature of the ſoil, from its containing ſulphur, &c. and may be worth exploring, on that account.—If, when the hole is at a particular depth, it is ſuppoſed to lead horizontally to a certain direction, it may be neceſſary to ſink down a ſhaft in this place, to communicate freſh air.—Suppoſing the hole to be a place of depoſit, or a gallery of communication to any particular place, it cannot be ſo deep, as to make the foul air a matter of much difficulty or expence to get rid of.—The mouth of the hole may be enlarged.

NUMBER XXX.

UNITED PARISHES OF MOY AND DALAROSSIE.

(County and Preſbytery of Inverneſs—Synod of Moray.)

By the Rev. Mr. WILLIAM M'BEAN, *late Miniſter of that Pariſh, and now Miniſter of* ALVES.

Origin of the Name.

THE Gaelic is almoſt the only language uſed in theſe pariſhes, and has been ſo, as far back as tradition goes. The names of all the places in them are evidently of Gaelic derivation, and deſcriptive of their ſituation, or ſome other property. Accordingly, Moy, in Gaelic, *Magh*, ſignifies a meadow or plain, which is the nature of the place; Dalaroſſie, or Dalferguſſie, is Fergus's valley. The ancient name is *Starſach-na-gal*, i. e. *the Threſhold of the Gaels*, or *Highlanders*, being the paſs, by which the Highlanders entered to the Low Country, ſo narrow between high mountains, that a few men could defend it againſt numbers. It was of great conſequence to the proprietor in thoſe times, as he could make inroads into the Low Country, and eaſily prevent any purſuit beyond

that paſs. He could likewiſe hinder any of the neighbouring clans from paſſing this place without his conſent. So ſenſible were they of their dependence on him, upon this account, that they agreed to pay him a certain tax, as often as he gave them permiſſion to take this road with their booty; which tax is ſtill known by the name of *Stuic-chriach*, *i. e.* the ſteak or collop of the booty, expreſſive of the quality of this plunder, which was cattle. After the place was cleared of wood and cultivated, it obtained the preſent name of *Moy*. It came into the poſſeſſion of William, the 7th Laird of Mackintoſh, in the year 1336, and was conveyed to him by David Biſhop of of Murray. The Laird of Mackintoſh, who is undoubted chief of that clan, is likewiſe captain of Clan Chattan. The Clan Chattan conſiſted of 16 tribes, each having their own chieftain, but all voluntarily united under the government of one leader, of whom the preſent Laird of Mackintoſh is the repreſentative.

Extent and Surface.—The greateſt length of the pariſh, from S. W. to N. E., is about 30 miles, and the mean breadth about 5 miles. This country is bleak and barren, rugged and mountainous, except ſmall ſtripes and ſpots on each ſide of the river Findhorn, to be afterwards deſcribed.

Climate and Diſeaſes.—The climate is much colder here than in the neighbouring pariſhes, which is ſuppoſed to be occaſioned by the great height of the mountains. Vegetation is accordingly later, than in the places that lie nearer the Murray Frith; and the crops, in cold ſeaſons, are liable to ſuffer by the lateneſs of the harveſt. The ſnow generally begins to fall about the middle of November, and frequently continues until March or April. In the year 1782, the froſt and ſnow overtook the crops of grain almoſt before any of them were ripe;

ripe; and they lay buried under the snow till February 1783. Though every possible exertion was made to recover them, yet very little was obtained. The people were in the most miserable condition for provisions; obliged to purchase them at a great distance, and at such a high price, that many families were put on very short allowance. Many were reduced to extreme indigence, from which they have not yet recovered.—But notwithstanding the coldness of the climate, the inhabitants are as healthy, if not more so, than their neighbours. They are not liable to any peculiar local diseases, and many of them live to a very great age. Two persons died last spring at the age of 93; and there are several at present in the parish near 90 years of age, who enjoy their strength and faculties, very little impaired for that advanced age.

Soil and Produce.—The cultivated ground in the parish bears but a very small proportion to that which is lying waste, perhaps not above a 15th part. But the soil, of what is cultivated, is, for the most part, of a very good quality, and, in favourable seasons, produces plentiful crops. The grain raised here is chiefly black oats. Some Scotch barley and rye are likewise raised. All the tenants and their cottagers plant potatoes, which ordinarily thrive remarkably well, and make a considerable part of their maintenance. In favourable years, the produce is nearly equal to the consumption of the parish; but, in unfavourable seasons, when the crops fail, they are under a necessity of procuring considerable quantities of grain from other places. The quantity of grain, necessary for the support of the inhabitants, would require to be much greater, were it not that the numbers of cattle and sheep, kept in the parish, furnish them with flesh and milk in aid of other provisions.

Mode

Mode of Cultivation.—Farming is carried on almoſt in the ſame method at preſent, that was in uſe for ages paſt; very few improvements have been introduced, nor do the people ſeem diſpoſed to adopt any. Inſtead of laying the whole dung of the farm on the barley land, according to the general cuſtom in other places, it is all laid here on the ley land, which they break up for oats; excepting a ſmall part of it, which is reſerved for the little barley that is ſown, and the potatoes.

Ploughs, Cattle, &c.—On account of the ſhortneſs of the labouring ſeaſon, the number of ploughs in the pariſh, is much greater then the quantity of land would otherwiſe require. They are not fewer than 246, and chiefly drawn by 4 horſes each, and ſometimes there are two oxen along with the horſes. The number of horſes in this pariſh is about 900; the number of black cattle 1,800; and of ſheep 12,000. There is a conſiderable number of each of theſe kinds of cattle ſold annually, with the price of which the tenants pay their rents, and provide for themſelves all the articles that their farms do not furniſh.—The ſheep, upon the large ſheep farms, are of the black faced kind; but thoſe, kept by the tenants, are a croſs breed, between the large black faced, and the ſmall ſheep, formerly kept in the country. The wool of the large ſheep is of a coarſer quality, than that of the ſmall; the wool of the latter ſells from 16s to 18s. per ſtone, Dutch weight.

Wild Animals, Birds, &c.—Foxes are very numerous over all this country, and very deſtructive to the ſheep and poultry. Of late years, a fox-hunter has been hired by the neighbourhood to deſtroy them. The pariſh abounds in polecats, otters, and badgers. The red deer are very numerous about the ſource of the Findhorn. The woods in Moy abound with roes. Black game and grouſe are ſo plentiful in this pariſh, that many

many gentlemen reſort to it in the ſhooting ſeaſon. Cranes and wild ducks neſtle in the iſland in the lake of Moy. On a high rock, above the river Findhorn, an eagle has for many years built her neſt.

Woods.—There is a good deal of natural wood on the banks of the river Findhorn, chiefly birch and alders. There is a tradition, that before this country came into the poſſeſſion of Mackintoſh, it was in a great meaſure over-run with wood, and called the Foreſt of Strathdearn; that it was ſet on fire through careleſſneſs, and deſtroyed by the inhabitants, when they began to clear the ground for cultivation.—The Laird of Mackintoſh has very conſiderable plantations of Scotch firs mixed with foreſt trees; to which he is making additions annually. Theſe plantations are in a thriving way, and in a ſhort ſpace of time, will decorate the country, and be of very great ſervice to the inhabitants.

Rivers.—The river Findhorn takes its riſe, in the hills of this pariſh, from a few inconſiderable ſprings, the principal one of which iſſues, in a copious ſtream, from what is called the *Cloven Stone*, a large rock with a fiſſure in it. The direction of this river is nearly from S. W. to N. E. After running for the courſe of 24 miles through this pariſh, it paſſes through thoſe of Calder, Ardclach, Edenkeillie, Dyke and Forres, and falls into the Murray Frith at Findhorn, in the pariſh of Kinloſs. The whole courſe of it, from its ſource to the ſea, is about 50 miles. It is called, in Engliſh, *Findhorn*, from the place at which it enters the ſea; but the Gaelic name of it is *Uiſg-earn*. From thence this pariſh, through which it runs for the ſpace of 24 miles, is called Strathdearn. As this river runs, for all this courſe, between high mountains, and receives many ſtreams or rivulets in its progreſs,

it

it riſes very rapidly, and falls at times very ſuddenly. There is but 1 bridge over it, through the whole of this courſe; and the people at a diſtance from the bridge, having frequent occaſion to croſs the river, often attempt to ford it in an improper ſtate, by which many lives are loſt. This river abounds with a great variety of trouts; ſome ſalmon are alſo found in it within the bounds of this pariſh, eſpecially in ſeaſons that have frequent *ſpeats* or floods, that enable the ſalmon to get over the rocks, which obſtruct their paſſage when the river is low. There are a number of leſſer ſtreams and rivulets in the pariſh, but none of them of ſuch importance as to deſerve particular notice.

Lake, Iſland, &c.—The Lake of Moy is the only conſiderable one in this pariſh. By an actual meaſurement of it, taken on the ice, its greateſt length is $1\frac{3}{4}$, and the greateſt breadth $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile. This lake abounds with *charr* (commonly called *red wames*), and a great variety of other trouts, of different ſizes and colours. About the middle of the lake there is an iſland, conſiſting of about 2 acres of ground. It lies N. and S., and is nearly the ſhape of a violin. At the ſouth end of the iſland, there are the remains of a houſe, containing 4 fire rooms, where the Lairds of Mackintoſh reſided in times of trouble. By an inſcription above the gate, it is ſaid to have been built in the year 1665, by Lauchlan the 20th Laird of Mackintoſh. Adjoining to the houſe, there is a garden, planted with fruit trees and currant buſhes. It appears, by the ruins ſtill remaining, that there have formerly been very extenſive buildings in this iſland. The remains of a ſtreet, the whole length of the iſland, with the foundations of houſes, on each ſide, are ſtill very viſible; and in the year 1760, two ovens were diſcovered, each capable to contain 4 buſhels of meal

meal made into bread. In the year 1422, it contained a garriſon of 400 men. In thoſe troubleſome times, when it was neceſſary to live either in fortified or inacceſſible places, the Lairds of Mackintoſh reſided here conſtantly, except in the winter ſeaſons. At the diſtance of ſome hundred yards from this, there is an artificial iſland formed, by heaping a parcel of large round ſtones upon each other. This place was uſed for the confinement of malefactors, before the abolition of the juriſdiction power, which was veſted in the hands of the chiefs. When the lake was low, the criminal could ſcarce ſtand with dry feet; but after rains, the water roſe to his middle. Luckily, however, for the priſoner, in 24 hours he was either acquitted or condemned. This place is called *Ellan-na-glach*, i. e. *the Stoney Iſland.*

Mineral Well.—At the north end of the lake, there is a well of mineral water, which is accounted ſerviceable for headachs, and diſorders of the ſtomach. There is no account of its being analyſed, ſo as to have its qualities aſcertained; but it appears to be of the chalybeate kind.

Population.—The pariſh regiſter having been deſtroyed a few years ago, by an accidental fire, a liſt of baptiſms and marriages cannot now be made out; nor can the population be aſcertained in that way. The following is the reſult of a late enumeration, taken for the purpoſe of this ſtatement: The deaths are not recorded in this, or the neighbouring pariſhes, and therefore cannot be aſcertained.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Number of examinable perſons, -	757	843	1600
——— children under 7 years of age, - - - - - - -			213
Total number of ſouls, - - - - - - -			1813
The return to Dr. Webſter, in 1755, was - - -			1693
Increaſe, - - -			120

List of Births and Marriages for the laſt four years.

	1788	1789	1790	1791	Total.	Ann. Aver.
Baptiſms, - -	34	45	32	49	160	40
Marriages, - -	18	10	12	45	55	13¾

There have not been many new houſes built for theſe ſeveral years; but of late ſome parts of the pariſh, which contained a great number of inhabitants, have been laid out in ſheep farms, which has diminiſhed the population very conſiderably; and if this ſheep farming plan ſhall be extended here, as is propoſed, it is thought it will occaſion a ſtill farther diminution of the population.

Occupations.—In theſe united pariſhes, there are no towns, villages, nor manufactories of any kind. All the inhabitants are employed in cultivating the ground, and in tending their cattle, excepting a few artificers; ſuch as, ſquare wrights, blackſmiths, weavers, tailors and ſhoemakers, who work for the other inhabitants. The generality of the tenants occupy ſmall farms, for which they pay from 5l. to 10l. Sterling of yearly rent. All theſe tenants have cottagers, who are employed as ſervants and labourers by them, or follow the occupations already mentioned*. The number, either of tenants

* The wages of labourers are increaſed conſiderably of late years. About 30 or 40 years ago, that of an ordinary farm ſervant, including ſome perquiſites, was

nants or cottagers, cannot be ascertained with precision; but it is supposed, that the number of the former is about 200, and that of the latter not less than 340; which, with the proprietors residing in the parish, makes the number of houses a few more than 540.

Proprietors, Rent, &c.—These parishes are the property of 13 heritors, all holding of subject superiors, except the Laird of Mackintosh. Five of these heritors reside in the parish. The valued rent of the parish is 2,234l. Scotch. The real rent is about 1000l. Sterling, and is increasing considerably, by sheep farms. As pasturage is an important object here, in letting of farms, pasture ground is considered as well as the arable land; and land is let not *by the acre*, but *by the piece*, or *lump*; and therefore the rent per acre cannot be specified. Besides the rent in money, customs are paid *in kind* by most of the tenants, such as wedders, eggs, fowls, and other articles. Personal services are likewise exacted by the proprietors from their tenants; as casting and carrying home a certain quantity of fuel; shearing a certain number of days in harvest; carrying loads from distant parts of the country; and performing numbers of other things, that are scarce worth mentioning, but which are very troublesome to the poor people liable to this treatment.

was from 10s. to 12s. in the half year; and a day labourer had 4d. per day, with his maintenance, and 7d. without it. Now, the wages of a farm servant is from 2l. to 2l. 15s. in the half year; that of a labourer 6d. with, and 1s, without victuals, per day. The wages of a female servant, about 50 years ago, was between 6s. and 7s.; now, from 15s. to 20s. Sterling in the half year. Female servants always receive their maintenance in the family, in which they live; the greater part of the men servants have their victuals in the family, and some receive meal in lieu of their victuals, at the rate of 6 bolls per annum to a full grown man, and 4 bolls, of 9 stone Dutch weight each, to boys.

Eccleſiaſtical State.—This is an united pariſh, as already obſerved, made up of the original pariſhes of Moy and Dalaroſſie. There is no account, written or traditional, when the annexation took place; yet, in many reſpects, the pariſhes are diſtinct and ſeparate, though under the charge of one miniſter. There is ſtill a church kept up in each, in which divine ſervice is performed alternately. Theſe churches are 9 miles diſtant from each other: the road is at all times rough, and in the ſtormy ſeaſon, frequently impaſſable. The church of Moy was built in the year 1765, and is ſtill in good repair. The church of Dalaroſſie was rebuilt in the year 1790. Mr. Roſe of Kilravock is accounted patron, and has hitherto always preſented to it.—The ſtipend is 69l. 14s. 2d., with a ſmall glebe in each pariſh. The manſe was built in the year 1765, and has lately received ſome reparation, which has made it tolerably comfortable.—All the inhabitants of this pariſh are of the Eſtabliſhed Church, except a few individuals, who are of the Epiſcopal Communion, but commonly attend divine ſervice in the pariſh church.

Schools.—There is a parochial ſchool eſtabliſhed in this pariſh. The ſchool-houſe was rebuilt in 1784, in a pretty ſufficient manner. The ſalary is 100l. Scotch. The ſchoolmaſter is ordinarily ſeſſion-clerk, by which he makes about 2l. 10s. Sterling annually. The ſchool fees are, 1s. for reading and writing, 1s. 6d. for arithmetic, and 2s. for Latin. All theſe emoluments put together, will make about 20l. Sterling in the year. The poor are much inclined to give a little education to their children; but ſo extenſive is the pariſh, that a very inconſiderable part of them only can be accommodated by the parochial ſchool.

Poor.

Poor.—There are a number of poor people in this pariſh; but moſt of them do ſomething in the way of providing for their own maintenance, and receive what aid can be given them from the pariſh funds. Theſe funds are very inconſiderable, being only the weekly collections, which do not exceed 4l. or 5l. Sterling in the year. Such as are altogether incapable of labouring are relieved by the neighbourhood: But as the practice of common begging is not reſtrained, many of them betake themſelves to that method of obtaining ſupport.

Roads and Bridges.—The road from Inverneſs to Perth paſſes through this pariſh. It was made, and is ſtill kept in repair, by Government. Beſides a large and uſeful bridge on the river Findhorn, there is a number of ſmaller ones on this road, within the pariſh, which were built and kept in repair at the public expence. There are roads of communication betwixt the different parts of the pariſh, now forming by the ſtatute labour; but there is ſo much to be done in that way, that it will take a conſiderable time before theſe roads can be completed.

Inns and Alehouſes.—There are in this pariſh 2 inns, on the public road, and about 12 ſmall public houſes that ſell whiſky. The whiſky houſes are exceedingly detrimental to the morals of the people, as they are ſo many temptations, in every different part of the pariſh, to idleneſs, quarrelling, and many other vices.—It is ſuppoſed, that the coldneſs of the climate renders the uſe of ſpirits more neceſſary than in milder ſituations; but whatever may be in that, it is much to be regretted, that, inſtead of making that moderate uſe of ſpirits, moſt of the people, that reſort to theſe ſmall public houſes, ſeldom depart without going to exceſs.

Character

Character and Manners.—The inhabitants of theſe pariſhes, however, are, in general, ſober, peaceable, and induſtrious. Crimes of an atrocious nature are rare among them. The climate is rather unfavourable to the conſtant exerciſe of induſtry, as during the ſtormy ſeaſon in winter, and a great part of ſpring, they can do little, except taking care of their cattle; but as ſoon as the ſeaſon permits them to labour without doors, their exertions are very great, until the ſeed time is over. In ſummer, they are employed in providing fuel, which conſiſts of peats; and as the climate is unfavourable, on the one hand, this inconvenience is in a great meaſure remedied, by the great plenty of fuel in every part of the pariſh. In harveſt they are equally diligent in cutting down and ſecuring their corn, before the bad weather ſets in.—In their manners, they are remarkably attached to old cuſtoms and practices. The language, dreſs, and moſt of the peculiarities of the old Highlanders, continue in this place, with very little alteration. Excepting the gentry, few of the inhabitants of this place ſpeak Engliſh; nor do they diſcover much inclination to acquire that language. The tartan plaid and kilt, and the other parts of dreſs peculiar to the Highlanders, are ſtill in general uſe among the men; the women, in like manner, retain the Highland dreſs of that ſex. Their houſes are of the ſame conſtruction with thoſe of their predeceſſors for ages paſt; and they ſtill place the fire in the middle of the houſe, and the family ſits in the form of a circle around it.

NUMBER XXXI.

PARISH OF LESLY.

(Preſbytery of Garioch—County and Synod of Aberdeen.)

By the Rev. Mr. J. HARPER, *Aſſiſtant to the Rev. Mr.* ALEX. STEWART, *Miniſter of that Pariſh.*

Origin of the Name.

THE ancient and modern name of the pariſh is Leſly; the etymology of which is uncertain. There is a tradition, that one *Bartholemew de Leſlyn*, a noble Hungarian, came to Scotland with Queen Margaret, about the year 1067; that he was a ſon of *Walter de Leſlyn*, who had taken his ſirname from the caſtle of Leſlyn in Hungary, where he was born; and that he, or ſome of his deſcendants, having obtained a grant of certain lands in Garioch, called them by his own name. It is certain, that the family of Rothes were long proprietors of a conſiderable part of the pariſh of Leſlie*, and other lands in Garioch, and it is not improbable that the pariſh derives its appellation from them. A charter was granted by James II. to George, deſigned *Dominus de Leſly*, erecting

* At that period, Lord Glammiſs was proprietor of the other part of the pariſh.

erecting the town of Leſly into a burgh of barony, with the privilege of a weekly market on Thurſday, and a yearly fair at Michaelmas. Both theſe, however, have long ago been diſcontinued.

Situation, Extent, Surface, Soil and Climate.—This pariſh is ſituated in the weſt part of that diſtrict of Aberdeenſhire called Garioch. Its length from E. to W. is about 2 computed miles, and its breadth nearly the ſame. The general appearance of the pariſh is rather hilly; but theſe little hills are capable of being cultivated almoſt to their ſummits. The Water of Gadie, ſo ſweetly celebrated by Arthur Johnſton, in his elegant Latin poems, runs through the pariſh, from W. to E. and divides it almoſt into two equal parts. It is here but an inconſiderable rivulet, but abounds with ſmall trout. The ſoil of the lower grounds, on the ſouth ſide of the water, is a deep, ſtrong, rich mould, on a clayey bottom; and produces good crops of bear and oats, with very indifferent culture. The lands on the north ſide, are a light loamy ſoil, on a bed of rock or gravel, and though they do not yield ſuch weighty crops, are earlier than thoſe on the ſouth ſide of the pariſh. The air is reckoned ſalubrious, though rather moiſt: and the ſeaſons are ſomewhat later than in the lower end of the Garioch.

Produce, Cultivation, &c.—The chief productions are oats, bear, a few acres of peaſe, turnips, potatoes, and a little hay. The ſpirit of improvement has not yet reached this diſtrict, or at leaſt in a very partial degree; and the mode of cultivation generally adopted is wretchedly bad. The ſame method of tillage, and cropping the ground, ſtill prevails, which was practiſed perhaps 200 years ago. With the advantage of an excellent ſoil, a tolerable climate, and rents by no means extravagant

travagant, the farmer toils on from day to day, harraſſes and perplexes himſelf, and, after all, with difficulty procures the neceſſaries of life for himſelf and family. Though inſtances of improvement daily occur, and the benefits reſulting from thence are obvious, an obſtinate attachment to old eſtabliſhed practices too much prevails, and neither precept nor example will induce them to alter their plan. What is called *infield* is conſtantly kept in tillage. The rotation of crops, is, bear, with dung; then two crops of oats, and then the land is dunged again for bear. The dung is laid upon the ſtubble during winter, where it lies in ſmall heaps, expoſed to all the inclemency of the ſeaſon, till the oat ſeed is finiſhed. The dung is then ſpread, and the ground gets a kind of ribbing, and directly after that the ſeed furrow. The outfields or faughs carry 4 crops of oats without any dung, and then lie 5 or 6 years in paſture, except the part on which the cattle are folded upon during ſummer, which carries 5 crops of oats. Some of the faughs are ſown with a ſpecies of black bearded oats, which will require 2 and ſometimes 3 bolls, to yield 1 boll of meal.—A very few of the tenants are indeed beginning to adopt a better method of management. They ſow a few turnips, and ſome rye-graſs and clover. But their great diſtance from lime and other manures, together with the badneſs of the roads and the ſcarcity of money, muſt render their progreſs in improvements but ſlow.—Notwithſtanding this wretched method of cultivation, the pariſh can ſpare annually, at an average, about 700 bolls of meal, and 200 bolls of bear; a clear evidence of the goodneſs of the ſoil. An early ſpecies of oats has been lately introduced, which are likely to be of great benefit. They are a fortnight earlier, than the common oats, and produce fully as much meal. They are called the *Peebles*, or *Lord Chief Baron's oats*, and were firſt imported into this country in the year 1783.

Population.—The former and present state of the population of this parish is exactly stated, along with the rent and several other particulars, in the following table:

Statistical Table of the Parish of Lesly.

Number of souls in 1782,	413	Number of Members of the Established Church,	388
——— ditto in 1792,	392	——— Roman Catholics,	4
Decrease, within these 10 years,	21	——— Proprietors non-residing *,	2
Population in 1755,	319	——— Clergymen,	1
Increase within these 40 years,	94	——— Schoolmasters,	1
Number of marriages during the last 10 years,	36	——— Farmers above 50l. per annum,	1
——— Births, males 49, females 46,	95	——— ditto under 50l.,	24
——— Deaths,	33	——— Shopkeepers,	2
——— males,	184	——— Smiths,	1
——— females,	208	——— Carpenters,	4
——— persons under 10 years of age,	82	——— Weavers,	7
——— do. between 10 and 20,	66	——— Tailors,	5
——— do. between 20 and 50,	172	——— Millers,	3
——— do. above 50,	72	——— Male farm servants,	30
		——— Female ditto,	25
		——— Poor,	4
		Capital of their funds,	14cl.
		Annual income (collections, seat rents, &c.),	6l.

Number

* Viz. *Colonel Hay of Rannes, and William Forbes Leith, Esq. of Whitehaugh.*

Number of Young perſons taught Engliſh, Writing, &c.	20	Number of acres of Moſs,	60
——— acres of arable ground *,	1600	——— Carts,	60
——— do. meadow, or paſture †,	300	——— Ploughs ‡,	22
		Valued rent, in Scotch money,	L. 1533 0 0
		Real rent, anno 1792 §,	700 0 0

VALUE OF STOCK.

Number of horſes,	120,	valued at	L. 8	0	0	each	Total	L. 880 0 0
——— black cattle,	580,	———	3	0	0	———	———	1740 0 0
——— ſheep,	1200,	———	0	5	0	———	———	300 0 0
							Total value of ſtock,	L. 2920 0 0

Manufactures, &c.—The only manufacture, carried on here, is a coarſe kind of ſtockings, in which almoſt all the women are engaged, The wool is diſperſed over the country by different manufacturers in Aberdeen, whoſe ſervants collect the ſtockings, and pay for the knitting. This branch of trade has been of very great benefit to the diſtrict. They get from 10d. to 1s. for knitting each pair; and a good hand will ſpin and knit 3 pairs a week. It is computed, that there are about 9000 pairs manufactured annually in this pariſh, which, at an average, bring in about 400l.

* *Of theſe there are* 600 *acres of good croft, or infield, which let, at an average, at* 16*s. or* 18*s. per acre. The outfield, ſome of which is very poor, lets at* 4*s.*

† *Beſides a pretty large extent of heath and ſheep paſture.*

‡ *Theſe ploughs are drawn by* 8, 10, *and ſome by* 12 *oxen; and* 5 *or* 6 *drawn by horſes and oxen, or cows, yoked together. The ploughs are of the old Scotch kind, and generally of a very bad conſtruction. There is only* 1 *plough, drawn by a pair of horſes, in the pariſh. In the year* 1752, *there was not one cart in the pariſh. The inhabitants then carried out their farm dung in creels on horſes backs, and brought home their fuel in ſummer in the ſame manner. This ſlovenly practice is now almoſt entirely laid aſide, the farmers having all got carts.*

§ *The price of meal is here computed at* 10*s. per boll.*

Eccleſiaſtical State and School—Colonel Hay of Rannes is patron. The value of the living, excluſive of the manſe, and a glebe of 5 acres, is 104 bolls meal, 2½ bolls bear, and 5l. 1s. 2$\frac{8}{12}$d. beſides the vicarage tithes of a part of the pariſh, which will amount to about 4l. per annum. The manſe was built in 1732, and is now ruinous; but the heritors have agreed to build a commodious new one in 1793. The church is old, but in very good repair.—The encouragement for a ſchoolmaſter here is very poor. The ſalary is only 4½ bolls of meal, and 1l. 13s. 4d. being the intereſt of a half years vacant ſtipend bequeathed by the family of Leithhall. Notwithſtanding which, the preſent ſchoolmaſter has remained in this office ſince the year 1745, and is perfectly ſatisfied and contented with his lot.

Poor.—Beſides the poor upon the roll, who receive public charity, a few others get occaſional ſupplies. None belonging to the pariſh are permitted to beg. This however does not prevent a number of vagrants, from other places, ſtrolling about and extorting alms from the inhabitants, and often pilfering what they can lay their hands upon. The funds belonging to the poor, above ſtated, are lent out at intereſt. The greateſt part of it was mortified by Mr. William Watſon, and Mr. William Forbes, both miniſters of Leſly. In the year 1782, very little encroachment was made upon the capital belonging to the poor; for though they were pretty numerous, and proviſions very dear, yet they were liberally ſupplied; the Rev. Mr. Stewart having generouſly lent money to the kirk-ſeſſion, without intereſt, for purchaſing meal to the poor ſort of inhabitants, which was ſold out at a reduced price; and to thoſe who could not afford to purchaſe, it was given gratis.

Diſeaſes.

Diſeaſes.—The moſt common diſeaſes are fevers, of the ſlow nervous kind; theſe are not often fatal. Sometimes inflammatory fevers, attended with putrid ſymptoms, appear, which are generally very dangerous. Many are likewiſe ſubject to rheumatic complaints, and a ſcrophulous taint of the blood ſeems to pervade a pretty large proportion, of the inhabitants of this and the neighbouring diſtricts, owing perhaps to the poor low diet they uſe, and the cold damp huts they inhabit.

Fuel.—The fuel here uſed is peat and turf; neither of them good in their kind. This fuel, from the time and labour it requires, in the beſt part of the ſummer, may be reckoned expenſive in the moſt favourable ſeaſons, and has always been found to retard the improvement of every country, and the advancement of manufactures, eſpecially where manure muſt be brought from a diſtance. Could coals from Newcaſtle or Sunderland be got during ſummer, at a moderate price, the advantage to this diſtrict would be conſiderable. The expence of freight and charges of importation muſt always affect this part of Scotland: But were the heavy duty on coals removed, the revenue of the kingdom, would ſoon receive, from the increaſing population and proſperity of the people, much more than it ever can derive from a tax, which is one of the greateſt obſtacles to their advancement.

Minerals.—In ſeveral places, on the ſouth ſide of the pariſh, there is a kind of jaſper, or amyanthus, found. It has a greeniſh kind of tinge, with grey ſtreaks interſperſed. The country people make ſnuff boxes and other trinkets of it; but no quarries have been opened, nor blocks of any ſize wrought.

Antiquities.

Antiquities, &c.—With regard to antiquities, this pariſh has little to boaſt. The remains of two Druidical temples ſtill appear, but neither of them are very entire.—At the head of the Den of Chapletown, on the eaſt ſide of the road, leading from Leſly to Alford, there is a place called the *Four Lords' Seat*, or *Little John's length*. It is a ſmall circular, artificial hollow, about 5 feet diameter, and 3 or 4 feet deep. Tradition reports that four different proprietors met at that place, and dined together, each of them ſitting upon his own ground. The four proprietors are ſaid to have been, the Lord of Leſly, Lord Glammiſs, the proprietor of Putachie, and the Biſhop of Aberdeen. A little to the ſouthweſt of this place, there are ſome veſtiges of an encampment, in ſeveral places, the foſſee is very diſtinct, and in others almoſt quite filled up. A little to the Weſt of this encampment, there are a good many cairns or *tumuli*. One in particular, larger than the reſt, is called *cock's cairn*. None of them have been opened. There is a tradition, that a battle was fought here, but when, or by whom, is quite uncertain.

Character.—The inhabitants are a ſober, honeſt, decent, well behaved ſet of people; ſome of them active and induſtrious: They are humane and charitable, friendly and hoſpitable. Many of them are well informed in the principles of religion, and are pious without oſtentation. There are no particular vices, to which they are generally addicted. Capital crimes are unknown. They enjoy the comforts of life in as great a degree as their neighbours of the ſame rank, and ſeem to be pretty well ſatisfied with their condition.

Advantages and Diſadvantages.—This pariſh, though the ſoil in general be excellent, and the climate tolerable, yet labour

bour under ſeveral great diſadvantages. Its diſtance from market, being 30 miles from Aberdeen, the neareſt ſea port, is none of the leaſt conſiderable. Thither the ſuperflous produce of the lands muſt be carried, through roads execrably bad. The diſtance from lime, too, ſo neceſſary to the farmer, is another great obſtacle to improvement. The ſcarcity of ſervants, and the high wages they now demand, are alſo grievances, but by no means peculiar to this pariſh*. In a word, rent, the price of labour, and every article neceſſary to a farm is greatly raiſed to the huſbandman, while the value of the produce of his fields continues pretty much the ſame. Cattle is the only ſtock whoſe value is increaſed; but this pariſh does not rear many.

Propoſed Improvements.—All theſe diſadvantages, however, might in a great meaſure be overcome, by granting longer leaſes to the tenants; by releaſing them from thirlage to mills, and ſervices of every kind; by aſſiſting them to build better houſes; by encouraging induſtry and improvements of every kind; and, above all, by attending more to the ſtate of the public roads. The inhabitants perform the ſtatute work upon the highways; but good roads will never be made by ſtatute labour, at leaſt in the manner, in which it is conducted in this diſtrict. It diſtreſſes the people, but is of no advantage to the public. A patriotic zeal, for improving the roads, ſeems,

* About 20 years ago, the wages of a common male farm ſervant were about 3l. per annum; none are now to be got under 6l. At that period, the beſt ſhearer, in harveſt, got 1l.; the common wages now are 2l. A day labourer then earned 4d. a day; now from 6d. to 8d., beſides victuals. Should ſervants wages continue to increaſe, for a few years, in the ſame proportion as they have done ſince 1783, the conſequences muſt be, either the rent of land muſt fall, or the tenant become bankrupt, and the lands be turned into graſs.

seems, however, now to animate the gentlemen of this county. The proprietors of land, in the neighbouring district of Alford, have set on foot a plan, for making an excellent road by subscription, from that part of the country to Aberdeen, which, when finished, will be of the greatest utility; and, it is to be hoped, the gentlemen of Garioch, will imitate so laudable an example.

NUMBER

NUMBER XXXII.

PARISH OF HAWICK.

(*County of Roxburgh—Preſbytery of Jedburgh—Synod of Merſe and Teviotdale.*)

By the Rev. Mr. ROBERT GILLAN.

Name, Extent, and Appearance.

ETYMOLOGY of names is generally matter of conjecture. Hawick may be derived from the Celtic, *ha*, a manſion, and *wic*, the crook or conflux of rivers; or from the Saxon, *haf*, the ſame with our *halved*, and *wick*, a common termination for a village, ſuppoſed to be formed from the Latin *vica*. To either of theſe derivations its ſituation agrees; as the river Teviot waſhes the ſide of it towards the north, and the ſmaller river, *Slitridge*, divides it nearly into two equal parts.—The pariſh is of conſiderable extent, being about 15 miles long from W. to E. and 4½ broad. The general appearance is hilly: None of the hills, however, are of any remarkable ſize; they are moſtly green, and afford excellent paſture for ſheep.

Soil, Manure, and Rent.—The ſoils of the pariſh are various. The haughs, or vallies, are compounded of loam, gravel and ſand, in different proportions. On riſing grounds between the vallies and hills, there is loam, with here and there a mixture of gravel. On the hills, the ſoil varies according to ſituation, being in ſome places light and dry; in others ſoft and ſpungy; and in others wet and ſtiff. In ſome farms, there are moſs and heath, though in ſmall quantities. The ſoil of the vallies, and of the riſing grounds contiguous to them, though not deep, is far from being unfertile; for, under proper culture, it produces plentiful crops of oats, barley, turnips, potatoes, clover, and rye-graſs: and, when laid into graſs, in proper condition, affords excellent paſture for ſmall cattle and ſheep. The ſoil of the hills is perfectly adapted to the breeding of ſheep.—The quantity of arable land is inconſiderable, compared with that which is ſuitable for paſture only.—The manure chiefly uſed is dung, collected in the town, and at the different farms. There is alſo marle in different parts of the pariſh, which is uſed ſucceſsfuly on land in paſture, as well as in tillage. Its effects have not been tried, upon land appropriated to the breeding of ſheep; ſome imagining there would, and others there would not, be danger in uſing it upon land light and dry.—The valued rent of the pariſh is 11,591l. 11s. Scotch; the real rent about 2800l. Sterling.

Trees and Sheep.—This pariſh does not produce any vegetable or trees, but ſuch as are to be found in other parts of Scotland. Upon the banks of rivers and rivulets, and upon the ſides of hills, the hazel, birch, hawthorn and grey willow, ſpring ſpontaneouſly, when defended from the ſheep; a proof that, at a former period, the country has been more covered with wood than at preſent. Neither does the pariſh produce any

any animals that are uncommon. The animal of the greateſt value, and chiefly attended to, is the ſheep: By far the greateſt part of the pariſh is occupied in breeding them. The number may be about 8000. They are of the long white faced kind, which bears the ſhort clothing wool, ſomewhat inferior in ſize, as well as in fineneſs of wool, to the ſheep of the Cheviot Hills. Having been thought defective in ſhape, from the lightneſs of the fore quarter, about 20 years ago an attempt was made to improve it, by means of rams of a breed highly eſteemed in England. The experiment was repeated, until it was found, that the quality of the wool was thereby deteriorated. Judicious farmers now ſtudy to improve the ſhape of the breed, by ſelecting the beſt lambs of both ſexes for breeding, without introducing a foreign mixture; and to enlarge the ſize and render the wool finer, by increaſing the ſhelter upon their farms, by affording their flocks plenty of food, and by rendering their paſture ſweeter and better. For this laſt purpoſe, keeping a leſs ſtock, and draining of boggy or marſhy land, are reckoned of great ſervice, and attended to by good managers. Turnips and broad clover have not been given to ſheep, in this pariſh, except for fattening them; although this practice prevails much in other parts of the county of Roxburgh. But rye-graſs is eſteemed a good ſpring food, where the ſituation of a farm admits of its being raiſed in abundance. In ſmearing, a much greater proportion of butter is uſed than formerly; but the total diſuſe of tar has never had a good effect.

Cultivation, Climate, Produce, &c.—The time of ſowing oats is from the beginning of March to the end of April; that of ſowing barley, from the beginning of April to the end of May. The practice of ſowing barley by the middle of April, upon land that has been thoroughly prepared the preceeding

ſummer, by fallow or a green crop, begins to gain ground. It is thought, that barley ſown thus early, is not ſo liable to ſuffer from drought, as when ſown in the middle or end of May; that the crop is ſooner ready, and the grain larger and better ripened. In favourable ſeaſons, September is the harveſt month. But if the weather is bad, harveſt is not over till the middle or end of October. This is not altogether to be attributed to climate; but in ſome meaſure to a practice that ſtill prevails, of ſowing great quantities of oats upon high lands, which nature ſeems to have intended for paſture only. There is a conſiderable variety of climate in the pariſh. In the town of Hawick, and its immediate neighbourhood, the weather is often mild, when it is cold and ſharp a few miles diſtant. In the winter ſeaſon, ſnow, on the high parts of the pariſh, is often deep, while near the town there is none. The proviſions produced in the pariſh, are more than ſufficient for the ſupply of the country part of it, but not equal to the conſumption of the town of Hawick. On this account, there is a conſtant importation from the neighbouring pariſhes of meal, barley for malt, butcher meat, butter, cheeſe, poultry, &c.—

The

* The wages generally given to ſervants are,

To a plowman and other ſervants employed in huſbandry, with bed, board, &c. per annum,	L.	7	0 0
To ditto, without bed and board,		13	0 0
To a ſhepherd, on a farm where the maſter reſides,		14	0 0
To ditto, upon a let farm,		18	0 0
To a maid, for milking ewes from Whitſunday to Lammas,		1	1 0
To a man, hired through the whole corn harveſt, with victuals,		1	5 0
To a woman, ditto,		0	13 0
To a maid ſervant, for taking care of cows in the houſe, per annum,		3	3 0
To a domeſtic maid ſervant, ditto,		3	3 0
To a labourer, from Martinmas till Candlemas, per day,		0	0 10
——— through the remainder of the year, ditto,		0	1 0
——— in hay and corn harveſts, ditto,		0	1 0

To

The number of ploughs in the country part of the pariſh, is about 30 at preſent, though they have not all full employment. The Scotch plough is moſtly in uſe; but ſome farmers uſe it with the Engliſh mould board. The number of carts is about 60, of which 50 may belong to farmers and carters, reſiding moſtly in the town.

Winnowing Machine.—The winnowing machine, or corn fanner, from the beſt information, made its firſt appearance in Hawick. Accounts, well authenticated, ſtate, that *Andrew Rodger*, a farmer on the eſtate of Cavers, having a mechanical turn, retired from his farm and gave his genius its bent; and, probably, from a deſcription of a machine of that kind, uſed in Holland, in the year 1737, conſtructed the firſt machine fan employed in this kingdom. In the year 1740, he ſent many of them into the northern parts of Northumberland. The principal farmers there, in the courſe of that year, purchaſed and uſed them; and Mr. John Greigſtone alone, then farmer at Wark, got 6 for his own uſe. The deſcendants of Andrew Rodger, reſiding in Hawick, at preſent ſupply the whole country around, and continue to ſend many of them into Northumberland. They ſell them from 2 to 3 guineas, and make and diſpoſe of about 60 every year*.

The

To women for reaping,	- - -	per day,	-	L. 0	1 0
——— for hay making,	- -	ditto,	- -	0	0 7
To maſons and carpenters in winter,	-	ditto,	- -	0	1 3
——————— in ſummer,	-	ditto,	- -	0	1 6

* Mr. Marſhall, in his Rural Economy of Yorkſhire, vol. I. page 283, ſays, about the year 1755, "my father made a *machine fan*, from a model ſhewn "him, with ſome improvements. This was the firſt, that was made in the diſ- "trict, and perhaps the firſt that was made in England." From the above account, it appears, that, long before the period mentioned by Mr. Marſhall, they were in uſe in the northern parts of Northumberland. The facts can be atteſted by ANTHONY GREIGSTONE, Eſq. of Lowlin, in the county of Durham.

The Town.—Hawick is a burgh of barony, independent of the lord of erection; and has exiſted free from a very early period. But the rights and documents of the burgh being loſt and deſtroyed, during the inroads of the Engliſh plunderers, a charter was granted, in the year 1545, by James Douglas of Drumlanark*, confirming to them ſuch rights and lands as they formerly held. This charter is confirmed by another, granted by Queen Mary in May 1545.—In conſequence of theſe charters, the burgeſſes elect their own magiſtrates annually. There is a ſtanding council; in conjunction with which, the magiſtrates manage the town's affairs. The whole conſiſts of 31; viz. 2 bailies, 15 of a ſtanding council, who continue for life, if not legally diſqualified, and 2 called quarter maſters, from each of the incorporations. The incorporations are 7, viz. weavers, tailors, hammermen, ſkinners, fleſhers, ſhoemakers, and baxters. A treaſurer and ſurveyor of weights, meaſures and markets, are annually choſen by the council. The clerk is elected by the burgeſſes at large, and generally continues in office during life. The magiſtrates receive reſignations and grant infeftments in the town. The ſaſines are recorded in the general or particular regiſter for ſaſines, as they have not, like royal burghs, a record for the town's ſaſines. They expede ſervices, cognoſce heirs, and pronounce decreets in civil cauſes, to any extent on which hornings and captions paſs. Hawick poſſeſſes all the privileges of a royal burgh, except that of ſending a repreſentative to Parliament, for which it need

* In this charter, one article may be noticed. One James Blair was taxed with "one penny of the kingdom of Scotland, upon the ground of his half *particate*, for finding and furniſhing one lamp, or pot, of burning oil, before the altar of the pariſh church of Hawick, in time of high Maſs and veſper prayers, all holy days of the year, in honour of our Saviour Jeſus Chriſt, and praying for the ſouls of the barons of Hawick, the founders of the lamp, and their ſucceſſors."

need not repine; as it is thereby freed from many temptations to idleneſs and diſſipation, to which the inhabitants of royal burghs, by their politics, are often ſubjected.

Revenue, Market, &c.—The common, belonging to the town, was formerly very extenſive; but ſome of the ſurrounding heritors, claiming a preſcriptive right of paſturage, 6 parts of 20 were allotted to them. The town's ſhare now amounts to about 850 acres, beſides ſome places in its immediate neighbourhood, which fell not under the diviſion. Previous to this diviſion, the cattle belonging to the burgeſſes paſtured over the whole common; and this town had no revenue, except what aroſe from the dues, or entry-money of burgeſſes, which was inconſiderable. Since the diviſion, the whole common is incloſed, and about 250 acres let in one farm, beſides other detached pieces, with ſeveral areas feued for building. The revenue, ariſing from theſe, and what is exacted for paſturing the burgeſſes cattle, now amount to 130l; and ſtill common ſufficient remains to paſture theſe cattle. No part of the town's revenue is ſpent in eating and drinking, except a trifle at the King's birth-day, and the election of the magiſtrates. The magiſtrates and council lately erected a neat council houſe, brought water into the town in leaden pipes, and paved the ſtreets anew. The Duke of Buccleugh, who draws the cuſtoms of the town, contributed 50l. towards building the council houſe, and paid half of the expence of paving the ſtreets. There is a weekly market and 4 fairs, beſides a tryſt, eſtabliſhed, within theſe few years, for black cattle, &c. in October, between Falkirk tryſt and Newcaſtle fair, which promiſes to ſucceed.

Manufactures.—Notwithſtanding the diſadvantages of diſtance from fuel, and an extenſive land carriage, manufactures are

are carried on here with considerable spirit and success. Several branches are now established; but the most considerable are carpets, inkle, cloth, and stockings. The *carpet manufacture* was established in the year 1752, and has, since that time, been under the management of Mr. WILLIAM ROBERTSON, now a partner. For some years, it was aided, by a bounty of 1s. per stone on all the wool manufactured, from the board of Trustees for improvements in Scotland. The present proprietors, since the year 1780, besides Scotch carpets, have manufactured several other articles in the woollen line; such as serges for carpet covers, plain cloths for table covers, ruggs, collar checks, with other articles used by sadlers. The quantity of wool manufactured last year, was about 220 packs* of laid and white wools. Women are employed to spin these in their own houses, receiving from the storehouse one stone at a time. The number of people, employed in the different branches of this manufacture, last year, seems to have been 362.—The *inkle manufacture* was begun in the year 1783. The only branch yet attempted is common linen tapes and twists. In these two articles, there are annually consumed 10 tons of linen yarn; of which one half is spun at home, and, when the price of flax is moderate, the whole of it. The number of people employed in spinning the flax cannot be ascertained, a considerable quantity being sent to distant villages, at a time, to a person appointed to give it out in small quantities. The other people employed may amount to 65. This manufacture, which is yet in its infancy, was likewise aided for a few years, by the Board of Trustees for Improvements and Manufactures in Scotland.—The stocking manufacture was established by Mr. JOHN NIXON, in the year 1780. For 4 years he was employed chiefly in making hose, for people who furnished their

* A pack is 12 stones; 24lb. of white, and 25½lb. of laid wool, to the stone.

their own materials, called *cuſtom work*. Since 1785, he has manufactured, on his own account, different articles in the hoſiery line, to a conſiderable extent. From his books, he appears to have manufactured the following quantity of hoſe:

Coloured and white lamb's wool hoſe,	3505	pairs.
Cotton, thread, and worſted hoſe,	594	do.
	4099	

The number of people employed, are,

Frame work knitters,	13	men.
Spinners,	42	women.
Seamers, doublers, and twiners,	9	
A foreman,	1	
	65	

The wool is given out to women, in ſmall quantities, who ſpin it in their own houſes*.—The *cloth manufacture* was begun in September 1787. The firſt year, this manufacture conſumed only 10 packs of wool; laſt year, upwards of 40 were manufactured. The cloth, which is narrow, is ſold from 2s. to 5s. per yard, to merchants in different ſea port towns in the north of Scotland. The number of perſons employed, is,

Weavers,	5
Spinners, occaſionally employed,	12
Dyers,	4
Carders,	6
Perſons employed in machinery in the ſhop,	4
	31

* The manufacture of ſtockings was originally begun by Bailie John Hardie, in the year 1771. He employed 4 looms; which, at an average, produced annually about 2,400 pairs, moſtly of the coarſer kind. He ſeems to have been the firſt, that introduced this buſineſs into this country; and, by perſons taught in his ſhop, it has been planted in Wooler, Kelſo, Jedburgh, Langholm, Melroſe, and Selkirk. From family diſtreſs he abandoned it, after carrying it on for 10 years, when it was taken up by Mr. Nixon.

Nurſery and Commerce.—In this pariſh there is a conſiderable nurſery carried on by the Meſſrs. Dickſons. This nurſery was firſt eſtabliſhed at Haſſendean Burn, in a neighbouring pariſh, in the year 1729. The ground there, fit for the purpoſe, being all occupied, in 1766 they feued land in Hawick, amounting to 36 acres, to extend their buſineſs. Theſe two nurſeries contain all kinds of fruit and foreſt trees, flower plants, and roots, and flowering ſhrubs, that are naturalized to this country; beſides a great collection of exotic plants. The demand for theſe articles of nurſery is conſiderable; for, beſides ſupplying all the adjoining country, and ſeveral other parts of Scotland, they are ſent to many places of Northumberland, Cumberland, Weſtmoreland, North Wales, Lancaſhire, Cheſhire, Yorkſhire, &c. At ſome ſeaſons, there are 50 people employed in the nurſery grounds; but, at an average, 30 are employed the whole ſeaſon.—Some people here make it their employment, to buy up eggs in the neighbouring counties, and carry them to Berwick, taking ſome weeks to the amount of 150l., and, at an average, of 50l. per week through the year. Others are entirely occupied in collecting ſheep ſkins, both white and tarred, in Dumfries-ſhire, Tweeddale and Selkirkſhire. Part of them are manufactured in Hawick, and the reſt ſold in quantities to the ſkinners in Kelſo and Galaſhiels. The perſons, who collect the ſkins, through the ſheep countries, likewiſe buy up coarſe linen yarn; which, together with what is made in Hawick and its neighbourhood, (not uſed in our manufactures), is ſent to Kendal, Glaſgow, Stirling, Leith and Aberdeen. One perſon gets about 200 packs of wool ſpun into yarn, which he ſells at theſe markets.

Church and Poor.—The Duke of Buccleugh is patron of the pariſh. The living conſiſts of 91l, 13s. 4½d., 16 bolls meal, 20 bolls barley, the vicarage tythes of a ſmall part of

the pariſh, a manſe and garden, and a glebe of 15 Engliſh acres. Beſides the Eſtabliſhed Church, there are two meeting-houſes; a Burgher and an Antiburgher. The diſtance of many places, in this and the adjacent pariſh of Cavers, from the pariſh churches, induced the inhabitants there to erect a chapel of eaſe. In this place, under the direction of the miniſters of Hawick and Cavers, a chaplain performs divine ſervice; partly paid by the Duke of Buccleugh, and partly by the miniſters and the people; but the aſſiſtant not being in orders, little burden is thereby taken from the miniſters. he number of poor, at preſent receiving weekly aſſiſtance, is 110: for their ſupport, the heritors &c. aſſeſs themſelves to the amount of 370l. per annum*.

Population.—The number of ſouls in this pariſh, from an accurate ſurvey, are,

In the town of Hawick,		2320	Married perſons,	-	970
In the country,	- -	608	Perſons under 10 years,	-	600
Males, -	1378	2928	——— between 10 and 20	-	618
Females, -	1550		——— ——— 20 and 50,	-	1214
The population, in 1755, was,		2713	——— ——— 50 and 70,	-	423
			——— ——— 70 and 100,	-	73
Increaſe,	-	215			
			Total,	-	2928

There is no exact regiſter kept of marriages, baptiſms, or burials.

* Beſides this proviſion for the poor, a number have aſſociated, under the title of *The Friendly Society*, to ſupport themſelves in the time of ſickneſs, or under the infirmities of old age. The members pay a trifle at their admiſſion, and 4s. annually; and for this, when reduced by ſickneſs or age, they receive 3s. per week; at the death of a member, his wife receives 1l. 10s., and a member, at the death of his wife, 1l., to defray the funeral expences. Beſides thoſe who are the immediate objects of this aſſociation, the ſociety conſiſts of many of the reſpectable inhabitants of the town and neighbourhood.

Inundation.—The town of Hawick, though not subject to inundations, has every reason to be afraid of them. It stands at the conflux of the rivers Slitridge and Teviot, which, after great rains, or the dissolving of the snows on the adjacent hills, rise several feet upon the houses immediately situated on their banks. A remarkable one happened in August 1767. Slitridge then rose to an astonishing height, occasioned by a cloud bursting at its source. It began to rise at 4 o'clock in the afternoon, and continued to increase till past 6, when it was 22 feet above its usual level. It marked its progress with destruction. Part of the surface of the hill, where the cloud fell, floated into the river. Corn and cattle, with every thing on its banks, were born away by the torrent. In Hawick, its devastations were great; 15 dwelling-houses, and a corn mill, were carried off, and the rock swept so clean, that not a bit of rubbish was left to tell where they stood. At the height of the flood, a maid servant, belonging to a merchant, recollecting that in the house, now surrounded with water, her master had 300l. in gold, boldly ventured in, and got hold of the bag with the money: In returning, however, she was carried down by the stream, but was cast ashore on a green below the town, herself and the money both safe. In this alarming event two lives were lost; both indeed through rashness and inattention.

Eminent Men.—Hawick, as far as the present incumbent can learn, has given birth to few men of considerable eminence in literature, in the field, or in rank. Some, however, who have resided in it, have shone in their particular stations. Amongst these, we must first rank GAVIN DOUGLAS*, Bishop of

* GAVIN DOUGLAS, on his first entering the church, was installed rector of Hawick, in the year 1496. Afterwards, he was appointed provost of the collegiate

of Dunkeld, author of ſeveral poems, and the admired tranſlator of Virgil's Æneid. Here too ſhould be mentioned, Mr. ALEXANDER ORROCK, the firſt miniſter of Hawick after the Revolution. He appears to have been a man rigid in diſcipline, and of extenſive charity. As a proof of the former, there is told an extraordinary inſtance. The magiſtrates, having offended againſt decency and propriety, were cited before him, and were not allowed to act in office, nor releaſed from the thunders of the church, until they had, on their uncovered knees, aſked pardon of God and the kirk-ſeſſion. This is a degree of eccleſiaſtical ſeverity now happily unknown. Eminent proofs of his charity, however, ſtill remain. He bequeathed, for the poor of Hawick, 116 merks Scotch; and for the ſchoolmaſter 9,000 merks: He gave ſeveral pieces of plate for the uſe of the church; and to the miniſter he gave his whole library, which remains a monument of ancient theological literature.

Antiquities.—There are remains of camps in this pariſh; but at what period they were formed, or by whom, the preſent incumbent has never been able to diſcover. There is a place called *Catrail* *, by ſome conſidered the remains of a Roman

legiate church of St. Giles, in Edinburgh, abbot of the convent of Aberbrothick, and biſhop of Dunkeld. He was nominated to the archbiſhopric of St. Andrews, but his appointment never took effect. To avoid the perſecutions raiſed againſt his family, in the year 1513, he retired into England, and put himſelf under the protection of Henry VIII., who kindly received him, and granted him a penſion. He died of the plague in London, and was buried in the Savoy church, in the year 1521.

* Whitaker, in his Hiſtory of Mancheſter, ſuppoſes the Catrail to have been a barricade thrown up by the ancient Britons. He ſays, "it runs in a N. E. direction from Carnaby on the Eſk, to Gallow Water, beyond Selkirk, lined all the way on the W. with forts; and even continues itſelf, by an additional chain of

Roman rampart; by others, the veſtiges of a fortification by the Saxons, or the ancient Britons. A little above the town, towards the weſt, is an earthen mound, of a conical figure, called the *Mote*. Some ſuppoſe this a *tumulus*; others, a place raiſed for the principal inhabitants of the town to meet, for the diſtribution of juſtice. This laſt, its name and tradition confirm. At an early period, this was common throughout Scotland. When the chiefs and the leading people in a diſtrict met, to promulgate laws for the government of their dependants, it was generally on a hill of ſome eminence; and many places ſtill retain the appellation, as *North Berwick Law*, in Eaſt Lothian; *Largo Law*, in Fifeſhire; and *Ruber's Law*, in this neighbourhood.

Character of the People.—Although individuals in this pariſh, as in other places of the ſame extent, are given to the vices uſual in theſe times, yet the inhabitants, in general, are honeſt, ſober, and induſtrious. Their induſtry is not the violent exertion of a moment; but ſteady, calm, and perſevering: And were it not for many diſadvantages and difficulties, they have to encounter, the ſpirit of the inhabitants of Hawick would raiſe it to the firſt ſtation of manufacture, in the ſouth of Scotland.

" of caſtles, along the Gallow, to the north. It was plainly deſigned as a barrier " againſt any enemy, that lay to the S. and E. of it." Its remains in the pariſh of Cavers, and on the Gallow, are ſtill conſpicuous; but little of it is obſervable in this pariſh.

NUMBER XXXIII.

PARISH OF CLATT.

(*County and Synod of Aberdeen—Preſbytery of Alford.*)

By the Rev. Mr. ROBERT FINDLAY.

Name, Situation, Erection and Climate.

THE name of this pariſh, ſeems to be taken from the village of Clatt, where the church ſtands, and which is placed almoſt in the centre of the pariſh; inſomuch, that from the church-yard, one has a proſpect of the whole; and none of the principal places in it are out of view, nor above the diſtance of a mile, excepting a corner that lies N. W.—This pariſh is ſituated in the Weſtern extremity of that ancient diviſion or diſtrict of Aberdeenſhire, called *Garioch*—It is a conſiderable time ſince it was disjoined from the preſbytery of Garioch, and annexed to that of Alford. The ſituation being naturally high, and ſurrounded with hills, the *climate* is cold, being viſited with frequent ſtorms of wind and rain from the E. and with ſnow from the N. and N. E; and it has been known, within the memory of the writer himſelf, that the winter ſnow has remained upon the ground, till the ſecond week of April, and

that

that the months of September, October and November, have proved rainy throughout. The froſt miſts which ſometimes begin the latter end of July, and are frequent in Auguſt and September, are very injurious to late ſown barley, and to peaſe *.

Soil, Cultivation, &c.—The ſoil is various; light and ſandy towards the hill ſides; the infield generally a loam, eaſily cultivated, being neither wet nor too dry. Were the climate as favourable as the ſoil, the ground would produce any ſort of crop common in Scotland; but the frequent changes of the weather, and the froſts, prove very unfavourable to green crops; excepting turnips and potatoes, which thrive well, when the ground is duly prepared. It muſt be acknowledged, that improvements in agriculture and huſbandry are, here, only in their infancy. Moſt of the greater farmers, however, begin to have a few acres in turnips and ſown graſs; but very little in faſſow, and no wheat, which would be but an uncertain crop, by reaſon of the lateneſs of the ſeaſons, the ſpring and autumnal froſts, and ſubſequent rains: Neither are the farmers, at preſent, in a condition to enter into regular rotations; as, beſides other reaſons, their poſſeſſions are not of the proper ſize, and only upon ſhort leaſes, which are a certain bar to all improvements.—Some ſtone incloſures have been made of late; and ſeveral plantations of wood have been begun upon the Knockeſpock eſtate. The firſt carts were introduced only in 1760, by the miniſter and another reſidenter. They are

* This occaſioned the loſs of the crop in 1782, by which calamity this country was much reduced; and had it not been for the Government bounty of meal, and the ſeaſonable ſupplies of white peaſe, deſtined for the American War, a famine muſt have unavoidably enſued: The *peace with America* was, therefore, the providential means of ſaving ſeveral ſhires in North Britain from depopulation and ruin.

are now become general all over the parish; only the horses are still of too small size to render carts as useful as they might be. In good seasons, the parish has been found to produce more grain than supports the inhabitants; but since 1782, the crops have often proved short; and had it not been for the money received, by the sale of black cattle to the south country dealers, the tenants could not have regularly paid their rents.—A branch of the stocking manufacture, from Aberdeen, employs several of the women servants; but it is too inconsiderable to be much depended upon.—Although some of the farmers are getting into a better form of ploughs and farming utensils, yet the old methods are still followed by several. Dung, mixed into a sort of compost with common earth, or seal from pasture ground, is still the common manure, although the ground agrees perfectly well with lime, which is to be had, at the distance of 10 computed miles, by an exceeding bad road; and very little attention is paid towards making it better. There are only 3 or 4 tenants, who have attempted fallowing or watering; though such trials, as have been made, have answered well. In particular, a summer fallow of *exhausted outfield land*, with the addition of a little lime, has produced excellent crops of barley and grass, which before afforded neither. The fact is, little can, or will be done, in the improving line, till the heritors or landlords take the lead, and encourage their tenants, either by premiums, or long leases; by abolishing servitudes, and mill multures *, which

* In some parts of this parish, the mill multure is computed to be 1-13th of the whole product of the ground; and, in a neighbouring parish, it is said to be the 11th part; besides the expence of upholding the mill-house and machinery. Whereas a liberal and sensible heritor, who wishes the improvement of his estate, and the prosperity of his tenants, will see the propriety and necessity of abolishing such unreasonable exactions, and of laying no other restrictions upon the manufacturing of grain, than barely that of upholding the mill, and giving wages for a miller to work it.

are all great and invincible obstacles to improvements in husbandry.

Springs and Minerals.—There are no rivers of any note. A rivulet takes its rise in this parish; which passing downward, through the parishes of Lesly, Premnay, &c. takes the name of *Gadie*, and afterwards becomes a branch of the river Urie, which falls into the Don at Inverury.—There are many springs of water, impregnated with minerals, as sulphur, &c.; but none frequented for medicinal purposes.—Almost every possession has plenty of out-lying stones for building inclosures. Quarries may be found, in many places, of excellent granite, very fit for building, and easy to be wrought. In one place, near the site of the mansion-house of Knockespock, (in the front of Craig-Hill), there are veins of variegated marble, which promise some sort of quarry of that kind. A considerable time ago, about the year 1754, it was dug a little, and some of the largest pieces, that could be got, were collected, and sent up to Judge GORDON of St. Christophers, then proprietor of the estate, who at that time resided at Moor-Place, near London: But, whatever opinion was formed about them, no further notice has been taken of the place since.

Population.—The population of this parish has decreased considerably within these 40 years; chiefly owing to some families, who had small farms, removing to the manufacturing towns, where they find a more easy and comfortable way of living.

The return to Dr. Webster in 1755, was			559
At Whitsunday 1792, when the incumbent completed his last course of visiting and catechising, the number was,			
Of Males,	213		
— Females,	212	Total,	425
		Decrease,	134

Of

Of theſe, the number of communicants is about - - - - 220
The number of inhabited houſes, and families, is - - - - 89

The following Abſtract ſhews the ſtate of the Births, Marriages, &c. for the laſt Ten Years:

Years.	Baptiſms.	Marriages.	Burials.
1783 *	12	4	
1784	10	2	11
1785	14	2	13
1786	10	2	19
1787	10	1	17
1788	14	5	21
1789	6	2	12
1790	8	7	7
1791	9	1	10
1792	8	5	16
	101	31	126 †

Occupations.—Almoſt all the inhabitants occupy farms, of greater or leſs extent, from 5l. to 40l. Sterling a year. There are even ſome as low as 1l. 10s.; and a few have only a houſe, with the liberty of fuel, but no ground. The artificers, or trades people, ſuch as wrights, tailors, ſmiths, &c. are merely ſufficient to ſupply the inhabitants with their reſpective ſorts of work: Some are paid by the day, or piece; others have what is called *cuſtom work*, *i. e.* a ſtipulated quantity of grain, with their crofts plowed, and fuel brought in. All have as much land as enables them to keep a cow or two, and a yard, or garden.

* There is no regiſter of burials for this year.

† *The above is the exact number buried in this church-yard, ſince* 1783; *but of theſe ſeveral are brought from other pariſhes, it being cuſtomary here, (as well as elſewhere) for the poſterity of former reſidenters, though removed from the pariſh, to bring back their dead to what they call* their own burial place. *Only a few of the reſidenters have buried elſewhere.*

Village, Markets, &c.—It appears, from various deeds, that the town and village of Clatt was erected into a burgh of barony, with power to hold weekly and annual markets §. Accordingly, the late Colonel HARRY GORDON of Knockeſpock, heritable proprietor of the ſaid burgh of barony, and markets thereto belonging, being determined to give all proper encouragement to the ſaid weekly markets and fairs, made public intimation, in the Edinburgh and Aberdeen newſpapers, of his intention to improve the burgh, and revive and improve the markets; and in the ſhort intervals, in which he was permitted to viſit his eſtate here, he began to build better farm houſes; to form plans for improving and incloſing the grounds; of raiſing flax, and introducing the linen manufacture, &c. But, being ſoon after called abroad, on government ſervice in the Weſt Indies, about the year 1784, his public ſpirited deſigns were interrupted, and have not been reſumed ſince, as the Colonel died about three years afterwards. By this fatal event, Government loſt an excellent officer, and experienced engineer; and his tenants a good maſter, who wiſhed to ſee them thriving under him; and one who had the improvement of his native country much at heart.

Roads and Propoſed Improvements.—This pariſh is interſected by 2 highways; the ſouth road from Edinburgh, leading

§ By letters of gift and donation, from King James IV. of Scotland, dated 16th June 1501, it was "erected into a free burgh of barony, with all the rights "and privileges thereof; with power to the proprietor at that time, and in all "time thereafter, to conſtitute and appoint bailies, and other officers, neceſſary "for guiding, governing, and ruling the ſaid burgh: And to have, hold, and "keep therein a croſs and market, upon Tueſday every week; and public "fairs and markets, every year, for the ſpace of eight days; with the liberties, "profits, duties and commodities thereof, in terms of the foreſaid grant and "donation: Upon which letters of publication have been iſſued at different "times, by warrant of the Lords of Council and Seſſion in Scotland."

ing north towards Huntly, Elgin, &c.; and the public road, from the high country, down through Glenlivet, Cabrach, Rhynie, &c. towards Aberdeen; which laſt paſſes within a few paces of the village of Clatt. The great ſouth road, leading directly north from the *Cairnie Mount*, paſſes through the town itſelf, and the whole breadth of the pariſh. It was made by the military about 25 years ago, and is kept, here, in tolerable repair. This road is ſhorter by many miles, than that leading by Aberdeen. A proper inn erected in the village of Clatt, (as was intended by the late Colonel Gordon), would render this a moſt convenient ſtage for travellers, either to the ſouth or to the north; and the road being once frequented, would contribute quickly to the improvement of the village. A ſpirited and enterpriſing heritor, by availing himſelf of theſe, and ſome other local advantages, and by circulating a little money to begin adventurers in the mercantile and manufacturing lines, might, through time, be repaid with large increaſe; and, at the ſame time, give employment, and a decent livelihood, to many, who, for want of ſuch encouragement, drudge on through life, burdened with a family, upon a few ridges of land, which can hardly afford them either ſubſiſtence, or opportunity of exertion. The great and popular objections, againſt attempts of this ſort, are, the diſtance from the county town, or any proper ſea port and harbour; ſcarcity of fuel; danger of engroſſing the working ſervants, and withdrawing the hands neceſſary for agriculture, &c. But all theſe, in the preſent caſe, might be obviated by a prudent economy; particularly, by introducing a better breed and ſize of horſes for the carts; keeping the roads in due repair, by a proper application of the ſtatute work; and giving good encouragement to dealers and merchants to ſettle in the village, and to frequent the fairs and markets. As to want of fuel, that complaint would ſoon ceaſe, if the unreaſonable *coaſting*

duty

duty upon coals were taken off, or commuted. And as for want of hands for agriculture, the obvious remedy is, to proportion the farms to a proper size, and to work them, either with two-horse ploughs, or with oxen in harness; either of which would perform double the quantity of work, in the same time, and to much better purpose.

Heritors and Rent.—There are only two heritors, Knockespock and Towie, neither of whom reside. The estate of Knockespock comprehends about three fourths of the parish. Of late, that family have resided in the parish a considerable part of the year, and their servants are constantly here. The valued rent of this parish, as stated in the cess books, is 1275l. 4s. 4d. Scotch. The gross rent may be estimated about 600l. Sterling. The tenants and possessors of the ground pay the cess, minister's stipend, and schoolmaster's salary.

Church, &c.—The fabric of the church had a thorough repair in 1779; and, with regular seats, would be a decent place of worship; but the old clumsy seats being still retained, disfigures the look of it, and affords less convenient accommodation for the hearers *. The manse was built about 1725. Both manse and offices have undergone several partial repairs, and at present stand greatly in need of more. The stipend is 500 merks Scotch, in money, with 16l. Scotch for communion elements; 42 bolls victual of meal and bear; some services of plowing, and leading turf for fuel; a garden, and a glebe, not fully

* The east end of the church appears to have been a Popish place of worship of some note, and of very old date. When the seats were removed at last reparation, there appeared, on the back wall, and at the end, a neat tablet of freestone, about 3 feet square, with side columns and a cornice. In the middle, in profile, are effigies of our Saviour on the cross; with the initials of the Scripture

fully 5 acres. It is much the ſame as it was 150 years ago, as appears by a decreet of locality, dated June 1650, and is now become very inadequate to the preſent rate and mode of living, when the value of money is ſo much diminiſhed, and the price of neceſſaries ſo much raiſed and taxed. In 1760, when the preſent incumbent ſettled, he had his firſt man-ſervant at 2l. 6s. 8d. Sterling, wages for the year; at preſent, he cannot have one, for the ſame office, under ſix guineas. It is the ſame with reſpect to proviſions, furniture, apparel, &c. Almoſt every article is tripled in value.

School.—There is a parochial ſchool, and qualified teacher, whoſe ſalary is 6 bolls of meal, collected in ſmall quantities from the inhabitants; beſides 20l. Scotch, as ſeſſion clerk, with the ordinary perquiſites for baptiſms and marriages; and which altogether, with ſcholars fees, will not exceed 11l. Sterling a year. As this is much about the common rate of ſchoolmaſter's livings through great part of this country, it certainly calls for the interference of the Legiſlature, to make ſome more competent and decent proviſion for ſuch an uſeful claſs of men, upon whom the morals and proſperity of Society, as well as of individuals, ſo greatly depends.

Poor.

ture inſcription on the top. The piece was ornamented with painting, in colours of vermillion, azure, and gold leaf, very bright and freſh. It was placed about 5 feet high above the area, and probably ſtood above the ſpot where the altar was placed. Within the oppoſite corner, at the front wall, was an apartment, or cloſet, of a cubical form, which ſeems to be the ſacriſty where the hoſt, money and books were kept. Alſo, within the inner ſconcing of the eaſt door, another ſuch cloſet, but ſmaller, probably for holding a veſſel with conſecrated water, for ſprinkling the people as they entered to worſhip. At taking down the old walls, the officious zeal of the workmen broke and defaced the tablet, before it could be reſcued from their hands.

Poor.—There are no begging poor that belong to this pariſh; although, lying along ſo many highways, the place is exceedingly peſtered with beggars and vagrants, from the Highlands and more northern diſtricts; as well as with *forners* and ſupplicants from the ſouth, many of whom are great impoſtors. It is much to be wiſhed, that ſome regulations were ſet on foot for rendering ſuch perſons better members of ſociety; or at leaſt reſtraining them from becoming ſuch burdens on the public, and intercepting, and often extorting, by threats and force, what might be very properly beſtowed upon real objects of charity. There are ſeveral indigent and infirm perſons belonging to the pariſh, who receive ſupplies occaſionally, as well as at three ſtated terms, Whitſunday, Martinmas, and when the ſacrament is diſpenſed. The weekly collections in the church, and at the ſacraments, and the dues of the mort-cloth, are the only poor's funds here. But they cannot be expected to be very conſiderable in a ſmall pariſh, where there are no reſiding heritors, nor gentry who attend public worſhip; or, ſo far as the incumbent knows, beſtow any thing for the ſupport of the parochial poor. Such poor as live in and about the more populous villages, are ſupplied, by their beneficent neighbours, with ſome little neceſſaries, which they could not otherwiſe procure; ſuch as milk, whey, turnips, potatoes, fuel, &c. When it is known, that any old or infirm perſon is in want, it is cuſtomary for the young lads of that corner, to go out in an evening through the pariſh, and to aſk meal, or a little money, which the people very cheerfully give; and it proves a moſt ſeaſonable ſupply to ſeveral, who would be in hazard of ſuffering want, rather than ſeem to be importunate, or burdenſome.

Character.—All the reſiding inhabitants are of the Eſtabliſhed Church, excepting one Roman Catholic, whoſe wife and

and family are Preſbyterians. They all attend the catechiſings. The people, in general, are ſober, intelligent, and induſtrious; charitable, according to their circumſtances, and regular in attending upon the ordinances of religion; though it is to be regretted, that, in this laſt reſpect, the *gentry* are far from being exemplary, to thoſe whom they deem much their inferiors. It is ſo far fortunate, however, that the *vulgar*, as they are called, do not imitate *their betters*, otherwiſe we ſhould have very thin churches. There is not perhaps ſo much of the outward ſhew of religion among the people, as in ſome other diſtricts, eſpecially where the Seceſſion has obtained; but, among the ordinary ranks, there is much decency, and, it is to be hoped, not a little real devotion. One thing, however, is ſtill matter of juſt complaint, through ſeveral counties in this northern diviſion of the iſland; too great laxneſs and latitude, in the manner of obſerving the Sabbath day; and which, inſtead of being devoted to religious exerciſes, is often ſpent in travelling on journies; giving and receiving viſits; ſending ſervants abroad, on errands and meſſages; and ſo abſtracting them altogether from the ſtated returns of public and ſocial worſhip, which, to many, is almoſt the only means of inſtruction they can enjoy. It is certainly matter of regret, that in a civilized age and country, not to ſay a Chriſtian land, and where we juſtly boaſt of ſo many other improvements, ſo much refinement in politeneſs, dreſs, diverſions, &c. there ſhould be ſo much coldneſs, not to ſay neglect and contempt, with regard to piety and the public ordinances of religion; and ſo little countenance ſhewn them, by thoſe who have it ſo greatly in their power, and who ſurely ought, to be exemplary to others, in this firſt and fundamental duty of every rational being.

NUMBER XXXIV.

PARISH OF DRYMEN.

(County of Stirling—Presbytery of Dumbarton—Synod of Glasgow and Ayr.)

By the Rev. Mr. DUNCAN MACFARLAN,
Minister of that Parish.

Origin of the Name.

THE name, *Drumen*, or, as it is more commonly written, *Drymen*, is obviously derived from the Celtic word, *Druim*, corresponding to the Latin *Dorsum*, a *ridge* or *eminence*. It is peculiarly descriptive of the appearance of considerable part of the parish, which is frequently intersected by deep ravines, or water courses, with rising grounds between them. The same word is also to be met with, as a component part in the names of many places, as *Drumquhastle*, *Drumdash*, *Drumliagart*, &c. The etymology of these, and almost all the other names in the parish, is purely Celtic.

Extent.

Extent.—It is extremely difficult to give an accurate idea of the ſituation of this pariſh, as it is of great extent, and its outlines are exceedingly irregular. The utmoſt length of the inhabited part is about 15 miles; but the moors extend conſiderably farther. The greateſt breadth is about 9 miles.

Surface, Rivers and Fiſh.—In ſome places, the country is rugged and mountainous; in others, flat and level; but, for the moſt part, it is an irregular ſlope, between the high moors and the rivers, cut up by a great number of ſmall, but rapid ſtreams. The principal rivers, are, the Duchray, the Forth, and the Enrick. The Duchray is one of the moſt conſiderable branches of the Forth, and divides this pariſh, for ſome miles, from that of Aberfoil. Near the church of Aberfoil, it joins another conſiderable ſtream; and the united river is then known by the name of Forth. Previous to their confluence, the pariſh of Drymen leaves them at a conſiderable diſtance; but afterwards joins the Forth, near Gartmore, about 5 miles to the S. E., where the winding courſe of that river, for ſome miles, divides it from that of Port. The Enrick takes its riſe in the hills of Dundaff, about 15 miles from Drymen, to the eaſtward. It ſeparates this pariſh from that of Killearn, and afterwards runs through it for about 2 miles. It then forms the boundary between this and the neighbouring pariſh of Kilmaronock; and, about 4 miles farther on, diſcharges itſelf into Lochlomond. Theſe rivers abound in trouts, par, perch, pike, eels and flounders, with ſome ſalmon.

Soil.—In ſuch an extent, there muſt neceſſarily be a great diverſity of ſoil. The banks of the Forth are, in general, covered with a deep moſs; but, where that is removed, the induſtry of the farmer is rewarded, by a very rich clay, pro-

ducing large crops of grain. The lands near Enrick are, in general, light, dry, and gravelly, a ſoil by no means unfavourable in a moiſt climate. By far the moſt common ſoil in the pariſh is poor, wet, and tilly, extremely improper for cultivation.

Climate, Fuel, Cultivation, Produce, &c.—The progreſs of agriculture here has been much retarded, by a variety of unfavourable circumſtances, the chief of which are the climate and local ſituation. The weather, as might be expected in the vicinity of high mountains, and at no great diſtance from the weſt coaſt, is in general very wet; which renders the ſeed time and harveſt exceedingly precarious. But the principal diſadvantage is the diſtance from markets and manure. The neareſt market town is Dumbarton, about 11 miles from any part of this pariſh; and next to it Glaſgow, which is at leaſt 18.—There is ſome limeſtone to be had in the neighbourhood, but of an indifferent quality. It is but little uſed, as the country affords no proper fuel for burning it. The farmers, in general, bring their lime from Kilpatrick, at the diſtance of 12 or 13 miles. Coals, which of late have been pretty much uſed, are brought from the ſame place. Peats and turfs are ſtill, however, the moſt common fuel; but as in moſt parts of the pariſh, they are brought from a diſtance of ſeveral miles, and as they require an uncommon degree of attention in cutting and drying, they are nearly as expenſive as coals.—The people, in general, have no idea of reſting their land; but plow, without intermiſſion, for many ſucceſſive years, to the great detriment of their farms. The common crops are oats and barley. The barley is chiefly ſold to diſtillers; and the average price is from 16s. to 18s. per boll. Oat meal ſells at from 14s. to 16s. per boll.

Village,

Village, &c.—There is only 1 village in the pariſh, which lies near the church. The inhabitants are moſtly tradeſmen and day labourers, who depend for employment upon the neighbouring country, excepting a few weavers, who work for the manufacturers of Glaſgow. There are Diſſenters of various denominations; but none of them have a place of worſhip within the bounds of the pariſh. A conſiderable number ſpeak the Gaelic language; and there are 3 or 4 who do not underſtand Engliſh.

Population.—Since the year 1756, the population of this pariſh has greatly decreaſed. This decreaſe is partly owing to the prevalence of large farms. In ſeveral parts of the pariſh, 1 family now occupies what was formerly in the hands of 7 or 8. Another cauſe of the diminution is to be found in the progreſs of manufactures. Though none of theſe have as yet been eſtabliſhed in this pariſh, they are carried on, at no great diſtance, to a very conſiderable extent. The bleachfields and printfields upon the river Leven, near Dumbarton, are perhaps the moſt extenſive in Scotland: and ſome large cotton mills have been lately erected in the neighbouring pariſh of Balfron. Theſe give employment to a great number of hands, at wages ſo high *, that the farmers find it almoſt impoſſible to procure ſervants at any expence.

STAT-

* About 20 years ago, the wages of a man ſervant were about 4l. a year; they are now about 10l., and frequently a good deal higher. The wages of female ſervants have increaſed in an equal proportion. At that period, day labourers received 8d. or 10d. a day. They can ſeldom be got now under 1s. 6d. As the prices of grain, and the other productions of the country, have riſen very little, the natural conſequence is, that all the lands are thrown into paſture, in which ſtate they require fewer hands, and can be managed at leſs expence.

Statistical Table of the Parish of Drymen.

Population as returned to Dr. Webster, in 1755,	2789
Ditto, in April 1792,	1607
Decrease,	1182

Number of families in the village,	40	Number of weavers,	60
——— inhabitants in ditto,	215	——— tailors,	6
——— residing heritors,	20	——— shoemakers,	15
——— non-resident ditto,	20	——— wrights,	16
——— clergymen,	1	——— inn-keepers,	3
——— dissenters, about	400	——— ale-sellers,	6
——— members of the established church,	1207	——— corn mills,	6
		——— flax ditto,	3

Annual Average of Births and Marriages in the Parish of Drymen.*

	Births.	Mar.
From 1st January 1743, to 1st January 1753,	46	15
From ditto 1753, to ditto 1763,	49	16
From ditto 1763, to ditto 1773,	52	12
From ditto 1773, to ditto 1783,	30	11
From ditto 1783, to ditto 1792,	32	10

Heritors

* *The above are carefully extracted from the parochial records; but as they appear to have been kept with very little attention, during a considerable part of the period, their accuracy cannot be positively depended upon. Till very lately, no register of deaths was kept.*

Heritors and Rent.—There are 40 heritors in the pariſh, of whom about one half reſide. The Duke of Montroſe, and Mr. Graham of Gartmore, are the principal proprietors. The valued rent in the ceſs books is 5069l. 10s. Scotch.

Church.—The church is ſituated near the S. W. extremity of the pariſh, about half a mile from the river Enrick. It was built about 20 years ago, and is a very commodious and ſubſtantial edifice. There are two other places of worſhip in the pariſh, each about 6 miles diſtant, where the clergyman officiates twice a year. The preſent incumbent was ſettled in February 1792.

Poor.—There are 38 poor upon the roll at preſent, many of whom are altogether incapable of doing any thing for their own ſupport. The public funds are entirely inadequate to their maintenance, ſeldom exceeding 20l. per annum. As no aſſeſſment for their relief has been laid upon the heritors, they muſt depend, in a great meaſure, upon private benefactions; and, in this reſpect, the truly neceſſitous are much injured by the great number of vagrant beggars, who, through ſome egregious defect in our police, are permitted to infeſt the country, without any reſtraint or interruption.

Diſeaſes and Longevity.—The climate, though moiſt, is by no means unhealthy. The moſt common diſeaſes, are nervous fevers, and complaints in the ſtomach and bowels. There are few remarkable inſtances of longevity in this pariſh. The oldeſt perſons now living, have only completed their 87th year. In one family, there are four perſons at preſent alive, whoſe ages, taken together, make 324 years.

Eminent Men.—This parish is said to have been the birth place, and at times the residence of the famous NAPIER of MERCHISTON, the celebrated inventor of the Logarithms.

Antiquities.—The only mark of antiquity, now to be discerned, is a large earthen mound, at a place called *Cashlie*, near which, it is said, the vestiges of a Roman Camp were formerly to be seen, though now no traces of it are to be found.

NUMBER

NUMBER XXXV.

PARISH OF EDENKEILLIE.

(*Preſbytery of Forres—Synod and County of Moray.*)

By the Rev. Mr. JOHN MACDONNEL, *lately Miniſter of that Pariſh, now Miniſter of* FORRES.

Origin of the Name.

THE name of the pariſh is clearly of Gaelic origin; *Aodincoillie* ſignifying *the face of the wood.* It is deſcriptive of the nature of the pariſh, which contained two royal foreſts, *Ternway*, or *Darnway*, and *Drummine.* In the public records there is preſerved a charter, by King David Bruce, granting to RICHARD COMYNE, a predeceſſor of Cumming of Altyre, an heritor in this pariſh, the office of foreſter of the king's foreſt of *Ternway*, in the earldom of Moray. And there is an after grant, in 1478, to THOMAS CUMMYNE of Alter, of the office of foreſter of the foreſt of *Drummyne.* The remains of natural wood, and the great quantities of oak and fir, found in the moſſes of this pariſh, prove that the whole face of the country was formerly covered with wood. The names of many of the places in the pariſh, ſhew, what indeed might naturally be ſuppoſed, that it once abounded with deer. *Drum-*

myne ſignifies *veniſon hill; Boganſheigh* and *Auchindair*, the places frequented by deer in the rutting ſeaſon, &c.

Extent, Erection, Surface, &c.—This pariſh is very extenſive, being, from N. to S., about 12 miles; and, from E. to W., about 10. It is ſometimes called *Braemoray*; and it was anciently a vicarage to Forres, the ſeat of the Archdeacon of Moray, and comprehended Ardclach, which was not erected into a ſeparate pariſh till the year 1638. The face of the country is in general hilly, but not mountainous: The higheſt hill in it, is called *the Knock of Braemoray*. The height of this hill, which is not conſiderable, has not been aſcertained by meaſurement. Upon the banks of the rivers Findhorn and Divie, there are ſome of the moſt romantic rural ſcenes, which wood, water, rocks, and variety of ground can produce.

Proprietors and Rent.—There are 5 proprietors; of whom only 1 reſides conſtantly in the pariſh, and another occaſionally. The valued rent of the pariſh is 1945l. 8s. Scotch: The real rent cannot be ſtated with any degree of accuracy.

Rivers and Lake.—The Findhorn, already mentioned, is the principal river in this pariſh. It takes its riſe in the hills, betwixt thoſe diſtricts of Inverneſs-ſhire called Strather-rig and Strathearn, above 50 miles from the ſea; after traverſing, with amazing rapidity, a tract of mountainous country, in a courſe nearly from S. W. to N. E., it diſcharges itſelf into the Moray Frith, about 4 miles below Forres. Over this dangerous river, from its ſource to the ſea, there are only at preſent 2 bridges *; one upon the military road, from Aviemore

* Near to Relugas, the river Findhorn runs between two rocks, which are only 7 feet diſtant from each other. A plank is here placed over it, which ſerves for a bridge,

more to Inverneſs; and another at Dulſie, upon the military road from Granton to Fort-George. This river croſſes the great poſt road to Nairn and Inverneſs, &c. And although it often detains the mail for many hours, and notwithſtanding the loſs of many lives every year, no aid has yet been procured from Government to build a bridge over it*. The other river, called *Divie*, or *Black Water*, falls into the Findhorn, and is perhaps one of the moſt rapid rivers in Scotland, riſing often very ſuddenly to a great height. The principal branch of it riſes among the hills which lie betwixt this pariſh and Strathſpey. The other branch flows from a pretty conſiderable lake, in the S. W. corner of the pariſh, called Lochindorb. This branch is called *Dorback*, till it joins the Divie, about a mile below the church.

Roads and Bridges.—The road, from Forres to Granton, croſſes the Divie by a ſtone bridge. The ſame road croſſes the Dorback twice, and at both places there are ſtone bridges. In the year 1783, another bridge was built over the Divie, near its junction with the Findhorn. The arch is 62 feet wide, ſpringing from the rocks on each ſide. The expence, about 220l. Sterling, was defrayed by a grant of 100l. from

a bridge, and affords acceſs from a conſiderable part of the pariſh, lying on the weſt ſide of the river, to the church. Owing to the river being confined ſo much at this narrow paſs betwixt the rocks, it riſes, in floods, to a prodigious height, ſometimes more than 30 feet above its ordinary channel.

* Miſs Brodie of Lethen, having procured ſome aid from the county funds, and ſubſcriptions from her neighbours, engaged in building a bridge over this rapid river, about a mile below the houſe of Coulmony. An agreement with workmen was entered into, to execute this uſeful undertaking; and, in a ſhort time, a moſt elegant arch, 72 feet wide, was thrown over the river. But, through ſome unlucky defect in the work, within leſs than a month after it was paſſable, this uſeful bridge gave way, and, in one night, fell into the river.

the Commiſſioners of the Annexed Eſtates, 25l. from the county funds, ſome ſubſcriptions from the neighbourhood, and the remainder by Mr. Cumin of Relugas, who took the whole charge of the work. It is a moſt uſeful bridge for this part of the country, opening a ſafe communication, betwixt the lower part of it and the higher, at a place where many lives were formerly loſt.—In addition to the above road, from Forres to Granton and Aviemore, Sir James Grant, with a view to ſhorten the diſtance from Elgin to Edinburgh, through Strathſpey, has planned out a new road, on the eaſt ſide of the Knock-Hill, intended to paſs through the valley of Pluſcardine. This road is already made, with great labour, and at much expence, from Strathſpey to the extremity of this pariſh. When completed, it will ſhorten the diſtance from Elgin to Granton no leſs than 8 miles. The gentlemen of this pariſh are very attentive to the roads, and call out the people to perform the ſtatute labour, with great exactneſs, every year; but the roads are of ſuch extent, and ſo difficult to make, that it is impracticable, upon the preſent ſyſtem, to keep them in very good order.

Fiſhing.—There is a conſiderable ſalmon fiſhing upon the Findhorn, within this pariſh, the property of the Earl of Moray. It is let to a company in Aberdeen, at 90l. Sterling of yearly rent. The 2 laſt years, 1791 and 1792, have been very favourable. The Sluie Pool, where moſt of the fiſh are caught, has been celebrated, from the moſt ancient times, for the great number of fiſh taken there. By a letter, dated 7th June 1648, from James, then Earl of Moray, to the Counteſs, it would appear, that the fiſhing was greatly more abundant in thoſe days than in latter times; for he writes, that "in "one night, on this pool, 1,300 ſalmon were taken; and, at "one draught, ſix and twenty ſcores." This curious letter is in

in the preſent Earl's poſſeſſion. Whence the great difference in modern times can ariſe, it is not eaſy to explain; unleſs from the ſuperior ſkill and induſtry of the fiſhermen nearer the ſea, which prevents ſo great a number now getting up the river. Above the Sluie Pool, the channel of the river is ſo rocky, that boats and draught nets cannot be uſed; and the fiſhers are obliged to uſe hang nets, and other devices of that kind. Among the rocks, long iron hooks, here called *clips*, are uſed for catching the fiſh. So conſiderable is the number caught by theſe devices, and by the rod, that the price of ſalmon, during ſummer, is ſometimes ſo low as three halfpence per pound, and ſeldom above twopence.—Salmon are alſo ſometimes caught in the Divie; and both rivers afford excellent ſea trouts and ſinnocks, and a variety of other trouts of inferior quality.

Woods and Plantations.—The natural woods in this pariſh are very extenſive. The banks of the river are in general covered with trees. Along the weſt bank of the Findhorn, the ancient foreſt of Darnway, or Ternway, already mentioned, ſtretches, for upwards of 5 miles, covering about 900 acres of ground, and conſiſting of oaks, aſhes, elms, birches, allers, hollies, mountain aſhes, and a few venerable Scotch firs; with beeches, geen trees, poplars, and almoſt every kind of tree produced in Scotland. Among theſe the weeping birch makes a diſtinguiſhed figure; many of them being ſo large as 9 feet in girth. Some of the oaks, at the ſide of the Findhorn, are upwards of 10 feet in girth, at 3 feet from the ground. They are freſh vigorous trees, without the ſmalleſt appearance of decay. Farther up the river, is the wood of Dunduff, which is of conſiderable extent, and likewiſe the property of Lord Moray. And there is alſo a good deal of natural wood upon the eſtates of the other proprietors. But the plantations in this

this pariſh, are ſtill more extenſive than the natural woods. About the year 1767, the preſent Earl of Moray began to fill up the vacancies in the old foreſt of Darnway, and has ſince gone on every year, extending his plantations all around his ancient Caſtle of Darnway, and near to Caſtle-Stewart, in the pariſh of Petty. The quantity of ground planted by his Lordſhip, including the ancient foreſt, is conſiderably above 3,400 acres. Part indeed lies in the neighbouring pariſh of Dyke, and part in the pariſh of Petty, in Inverneſs-ſhire, but by much the greateſt part in this pariſh. The nurſeries from which theſe plantations have been made, except a little at the beginning, have been all raiſed at Darnway. Scotch firs, planted out at two years old, from the ſeed-bed, are uſed as nurſes; and as ſoon as they are fit to afford ſhelter, the more valuable kinds of foreſt trees, principally oaks, are planted amongſt them. Theſe oaks, at two years old, are planted from the ſeed-bed into the nurſery, where they remain three years; and then, as above mentioned, are planted among the firs. When the oaks, and other deciduous trees, are ſufficiently advanced, the whole of the Scotch firs are to be cleared away; and ſome of the earlier plantations are ſo well grown, as to admit of the firs being completely cut out. Others of them are only cleared of the firs in part; and this operation of clearing goes on gradually and regularly. The Noble Planter has already the ſatisfaction of beholding his public-ſpirited plan fully anſwering his moſt ſanguine expectations; to which he is well entitled, as every part of the plan, which is extremely ſimple, has been carefully and accurately executed; and proper attention paid to the preſervation of the plantations, which are all in the moſt flouriſhing condition, and already greatly beautify the face of the country. Having obtained an accurate account of the number of trees planted by the Earl of Moray, ſince

the

the year 1767, the public will, doubtleſs, be much gratified with a copy of it, which is here ſubjoined.

Oaks planted between November 1767, and autumn 1791, -	596,000
Aſh, beech, elm, ſycamore, Spaniſh cheſnut, ſpruce firs, and larix, during the ſame period, - - - - - -	308,000
Scotch firs, between November 1767, and autumn 1787, - -	9,687,000
Total, -	10,591,000

It will ſtill require many years, before theſe very extenſive plantations can be filled up with oaks; but there is at preſent, in the nurſeries, a very large ſtock of young plants coming forward. The other proprietors have not been deficient in carrying on this improvement. On the eſtate of Logie, there are conſiderable plantations of Scotch firs, and a conſiderable number of aſhes, planted by the preſent proprietor's father, ſome of them near 100 feet in height. One of theſe aſhes was lately ſold at 5l. 13s., at the rate of 1s. 6d. per foot; a ſtrong proof of the profit of planting. And on the eſtate of Relugas, about 200 acres have been planted, upon a plan ſimilar to Lord Moray's, and upwards of 60,000 oaks planted out. Upon the eſtate of Dunphail, there are ſome old fir plantations, which have been cutting down, and ſelling for the uſe of the country, for ſeveral years paſt.

Climate, &c.—The air and climate of Moray, from the moſt diſtant times, have been celebrated, as of the pureſt and moſt ſalubrious quality, by all the writers who have deſcribed that country; and it has been a common ſaying, that it enjoyed 40 days more of fair weather, than moſt other places in Scotland. In Whitelock's Memorials, a book of great authority, there is a curious teſtimony in favour of the country, in *Oliver Cromwell*'s time: He ſays, "Aſhfield's regiment was "marched

" marched into Murrayland, which is the moſt fruitful country " in Scotland, and the common proverb is, that it hath fifteen " days more of ſummer than any other part of the nation."* It is unneceſſary to mention the praiſes given to it by Buchanan and others. The ſuperior degree of dryneſs, perhaps applies more to the level plains of Moray, along the ſea ſide, than to this pariſh, where more rain falls than in the lower parts of the country. But no place can enjoy a healther air than this pariſh does, being hardly ever troubled with fogs, or pernicious exhalations; and the rivers, ſo far from being hurtful, rather tend to purify the air, by the rapidity of their courſe. There are no diſeaſes peculiar to this part of the country.

Fruit, Orchard, &c.—In the valley of Logie, which is the warmeſt part of the pariſh, ſtandard and wall fruit trees grow well. Mr CUMMING of LOGIE, beſides an excellent garden, a good many years ago planted 4 Scotch acres of ground with fruit trees. This beautiful orchard is cloſe to the Findhorn, expoſed to the ſouth; but on all other ſides well ſheltered by higher grounds, and tall foreſt trees. In favourable ſeaſons, it already richly repays the expence of planting and incloſing.

Soil, Cultivation and Produce.—The ſoil of the lower part of the pariſh, near the rivers, is of a light dry quality, rather tending to ſandy; but, when properly managed, very fertile and productive. A very great proportion of the pariſh conſiſts of muir and moſs; great part of which might be improved, if lime, of which there is none in this pariſh, could be procured. For though there is ſome in the pariſh of Forres, it is too expenſive an article for common tenants to purchaſe, and hitherto

* Lond. Edit. Anno 1732, p. 517.

hitherto has not been furniſhed in any ſufficient quantity. The only kinds of grain raiſed in this pariſh, are barley, Scotch bear, oats, and ſome rye. Every tenant plants a few potatoes for family uſe; but no great quantity is raiſed. In the upper parts of the pariſh, they prefer ſowing the black or grey oats; a ſpecies much inferior to the white; but the black are thought more productive of ſtraw for fodder; an article much wanted, as a conſiderable number of cattle are bred in the pariſh. Farming is in a very wretched ſtate in this part of the country. They give all their dung to their bear crop; after which they take repeated crops of oats, ſometimes 4 or 5 ſucceſſively, till the land hardly returns the ſeed; and then it is left ley for ſome years. Although the great benefit of green crops, and a proper rotation, has been ſhewn by ſome of the gentlemen, the example has not hitherto had any effect to improve the practice of the common farmers.

Black Cattle, Horſes and Sheep.—A conſiderable number of black cattle are reared in this pariſh, ſomewhat larger in ſize than the Highland kind; and many of them are uſed in the plough. The horſes are ſmall, and of a very indifferent quality. Moſt of the tenants keep a few ſheep; but the management of that animal is not well underſtood here. They had no other kind, till of late, but the ancient breed of the country, with white faces, affording fine wool, and moſt excellent mutton. The beſt of the wool of this ſpecies, ſells for 18s. per ſtone; and, though generally a ſmall animal, from poor feeding, it may, when better kept, be brought to the ſize of 13lb. or 14lb. per quarter. This part of the country, abounding in woods and rocks, affords too much harbour for foxes; it is therefore neceſſary to houſe the ſheep at night in cotts, which makes the conſtitution of the animal rather delicate, and has been the reaſon of introducing the black faced Tweeddale

breed; which, though rather hardier, is much inferior, both as to wool and mutton. *It will be a great loſs to the country,* IF OUR ANCIENT BREED SHOULD WEAR OUT, *of which there is great danger.*

Population.—The regiſter of births, marriages, and deaths, having been irregularly kept, previous to the ſettlement of the writer, which was only in 1791, he can ſay little upon the population of the pariſh. The number of ſouls, in the return to Dr. Webſter in 1755, was 1443; it is now 1800; ſo that the increaſe is 357; and the population appears to be ſtill upon the increaſe, as a good deal of the waſte land, in the remoter parts of the pariſh, has lately been brought into culture, by families ſettling in theſe wilder parts of it.—Many of the people live to a great age. There are two women, now alive, whoſe ages amount to 180.

Occupations.—The chief employment of the inhabitants is agriculture. The farms are very ſmall, from 3l. to 10l., and a very few go the length of 20l. a year, which fully accounts for the low ſtate of farming.—There is little induſtry among the men, except in the poor employment of preparing and carrying peats to the town of Forres, at the diſtance of 10 or 12 miles from the moſſes, of which there is an inexhauſtible quantity among the hills. The women are diligent ſpinners; a branch of manufacture, introduced into this pariſh, by the late Dr. PATRICK CUMING of Relugas, who obtained a number of wheels and reels from the Society for Propagating Chriſtian Knowledge, and a ſalary to a ſchoolmiſtreſs. But there is ſtill much room for improvement in this branch.—The people, in this part of the country, have ſuch frequent intercourſe with the town of Forres, that they buy the greateſt part

part of their neceſſaries at the markets there†. This likewiſe gives them an opportunity to get their own manufactures diſpoſed of, which are but very few. There are a ſufficient number of weavers and tailors, for manufacturing the ſtuffs worn by the inhabitants. There are 2 ſhoemakers, 4 coopers, and 10 riddlemakers; and almoſt every man in the pariſh is a cartwright. They make their carts of aller and birch timber, and ſupply the Elgin and Forres markets. The price of them, in general, is from 6s. to 12s.

Diſtilleries.—There are no leſs than 4 diſtilleries for making whiſky in this pariſh, which conſume a great quantity of barley; and, what is aſtoniſhing, they ſell theſe ſpirits as faſt as they can run them! The inhabitants of this pariſh are, however, in general, ſober. Their whiſky they ſend up to Strathſpey and Badenoch. To account for the conſtant demand for whiſky in the north of Scotland, we muſt reflect, that, of late years, a total ſtop has been put to ſmuggling, by the great attention of the revenue officers, in the weſt and north coaſts of Scotland, which formerly ſupplied the whole country with foreign ſpirits. It muſt, however, be allowed, that there is more of this liquor uſed by the common people, than is good for their health or morals.

Church, &c.—The church is ſituated upon the banks of the Divie, about 8½ miles ſouth of Forres. It was built in

† The prices of proviſions are much regulated by the neighbouring town of Forres. Hens are ſold for 6d. a piece, chickens 3d., ducks 5d., geeſe 2s.; eggs, per dozen, 1½d.; ſweet milk, per pint, 1d.; ſkimmed ditto ½d.; butter, per pound, 8d.; and cheeſe, per ſtone, 4s.: get farm ſervants, from 1l. 10s. to 2l. in the half year, with 6½ bolls of meal in the year, or victuals in the houſe; women ſervants from 15s. to 1l. in the half year, with victuals, or 3 ſtones of meal: day labourers 7d. or 8d. in ſummer, and 6d. in winter.

1741, and, with ſome repairs, might be made a very commodious place of worſhip. The manſe, which is of an older date, is not in good condition. The ſtipend is 41l. 2s. 2$\frac{1}{2}$d. Sterling, and three chalders of victual, half bear half meal, with a glebe of eight acres, and a good garden. The Earl of Moray is undoubted patron.

Schools and Poor.—There is an eſtabliſhed ſchool in this pariſh, the ſalary only 100 merks Scotch. The number of ſcholars is about 30. Reading Engliſh, writing and arithmetic are the branches of education commonly taught. There is at preſent only 1 ſchool in this pariſh, ſupported by the Society for Propagating Chriſtian Knowledge, though there is a *claim for three*, in conſequence of a donation by Dr. DUNCAN CUMING, ſon of James Cuming, Eſq. of Relugas*. This ſchool, however, is of great utility, being ſituated in a part of the pariſh, altogether detached from the church and the pariſh ſchool.—The poor's funds are very ſmall, not exceeding 5l. Sterling annually, ariſing ſolely from the collections at the church; but the deficiency is made up by the charitable diſpoſition of the inhabitants, who never refuſe to aſſiſt thoſe in diſtreſs.

Antiquities.—In the upper part of the pariſh, among the hills, between Strathſpey and Braemoray, ſtood the *Caſtle of Lochindorb*, built on an iſland, ſituated in the middle of a lake of the ſame name. It appears to have been a very conſiderable place, and a fortreſs of great ſtrength. *Catharine de Beaumont*, widow of *David de Haſtings*, Earl of Atholl, who was

* This gentleman was phyſician to King William III. at the battle of the Boyne, in 1690, and afterwards ſettled as a phyſician in Dublin. In 1714, he ſent the ſum of 261l. 13s. 7d. Sterling to the Society, with a recommendation that they ſhould keep always 3 ſchools in this pari .

was killed at the battle of Kilblaine, anno 1335, reſided in this caſtle, which was blockaded by Sir Andrew Moray, the regent during King *David Bruce's* captivity. In the following year, Edward III. of England led his army northward, the length of Inverneſs, and, on his way thither, raiſed the ſiege of this caſtle. It ſeems afterwards to have been converted into a ſtate priſon; for, in the year 1342, the famous *William Bullock*, who was a great favourite of King David Bruce, was impriſoned there, and died through extremity of cold and hunger †. The remains of this caſtle cover a ſpace of ground, not leſs than 100 ſquare yards.

The *Downe Hill of Relugas* ſeems to have been a fortreſs of ſtill greater antiquity, and uſed as ſuch far beyond the period of authentic hiſtory. It appears to have been a place of ſtrength, to which the inhabitants of the country retired, with their cattle, upon the invaſion of the Danes, to which this country of Moray was ſo frequently expoſed. It is a conical hill, round a conſiderable part of which runs the rapid river of Divie, in a deep rocky channel; and, where not defended by the river, it is encircled by a deep foſſee, or ditch, with a ſtrong rampart on the outſide, moſtly compoſed of ſtones, ſome of which have the appearance of vitrification ‡.

About a mile higher up the ſame river, ſtands the *Caſtle of Dunphail*, upon a rock of a very ſingular appearance, ſurrounded

† *Vide* Lord Hailes's Annals, vol. II. p. 189, 190, and 209.

‡ Upon the ſummit of this hill, which is 220 feet of perpendicular height above the river, there is a level ſpace, in the form of an oblong ſquare, about 60 yards in length, and 20 in breadth. This level piece of ground has been converted into a nurſery for trees. In digging the ground, a quantity of human bones, aſhes and chareoal were found. When the country was covered with wood, this place, from its difficulty of acceſs, and the ſteepneſs of the hill itſelf, muſt have been of great ſtrength, and eaſily defended by a handful of men againſt great numbers.

rounded by a deep *gully*, or narrow glen, formed probably by the river, which, at a very remote period, ſeems to have run in this channel. The rock is of a conſiderable ſize, with a level area upon the ſummit of it, ſimilar to the Downhill, of good ſoil, covered with graſs, and ſeveral trees growing upon it. The ſides are ſo ſteep, that it is altogether inacceſſible, except upon that next the river, where there is a narrow road leading up to the caſtle. It formerly belonged to a family of the name of Dunbar; it is now the property of Mr Cumming of Altyre*.

Character of the People.—The inhabitants are all of the eſtabliſhed religion, there being no ſectaries. In the lower part of the pariſh, the Scotch dialect of the Engliſh language is only ſpoken; but, in the upper part, the Gaelic is ſtill much in uſe. About 50 years ago, the miniſter preached the one half of the day in Engliſh, and the other half in Gaelic. The people are rather gloomy in their ideas as to religion; but they are of a peaceable diſpoſition, ſober and honeſt in their dealings, and very ready to extend their charity to the poor.

* The very ſingular *Bridge of Rannich* ſhould alſo here be taken notice of. It is certainly of great antiquity; for tradition ſays, that it derived its name from the illuſtrious RANDOLPH, Earl of Moray, who was regent of Scotland, after the death of King ROBERT BRUCE.

NUMBER

NUMBER XXXVI.

UNITED PARISHES OF MONIVAIRD AND STROWAN.

(County of Perth—Preſbytery of Auchterarder—Synod of Perth and Stirling.)

By the Rev. Mr. COLIN BAXTER. *Miniſter of theſe united Pariſhes.*

Origin of the Names.

MONIVAIRD and STROWAN, originally diſtinct pariſhes, have been united for at leaſt a century and a half. The modern name, *Monivaird*, is a corruption of the ancient, which was Moivard, as appears by a grant made by the Earl of Stratherne, in the beginning of the 13th century, of the church of St. Servanus, or Serph of Moivard, to the monaſtery of Inchaffery. The ancient name is ſtill retained, in the ſpeech of a few inhabitants of the pariſh, who uſe a corrupted dialect of the original language of Scotland. The origin of the name cannot eaſily be traced. Its etymology is Gaelic; being made up of two words, *Moi Vard*, ſignifying *the Plain of Bards*. *Strowan* is probably a corruption of *St. Ronan*, the tutelar ſaint of Strowan pariſh.

Situation,

Situation, Extent, and general Appearance. These parishes are situated in the upper part of Strathern, in Perthshire. They are of a triangular form, and of considerable extent; being about 8 miles long, from N. to S. and about 6 miles broad from E. to W. The general appearance of the country is romantic. The Grampian mountains, on the north, are among the highest in the neighbourhood. The lesser hills, in the bottom, are picturesque in their forms, having their sides covered with fine copse wood, and their heads crowned with firs. The river Ern flows, in beautiful curves, in the bottom of the valley.

Soil and Cultivation.—The soil is various, but the greater part is light and gravelly. The haughs on the banks of the Ern, which are frequently overflown, produce rich crops. The banks next the bottom, have long been cultivated as infields; that is, ground which receives all the manure, produced from the lands in the tenants possession. It is therefore very rich; but, from constant culture in white crops, is much infested with weeds, especially if frequent mild rains succeed sowing. Late sowing is therefore practised under the old husbandry; the inconvenience of which is the less felt, as the soil is dry, well exposed, and well sheltered, and therefore naturally early. Another kind of soil, employed in tillage, lies on the banks above the infields. This ground is prepared for yielding three crops of oats, by folding the cattle upon it, or by watering it, by means of the rivulets which run from the hills: And, after being thus cropped, it is thrown into grass. These fields, not being sown with grass seeds, suffer much, from their sloping posture, before they gather a swaird sufficient to prevent the heavy rains from washing away great part of the finest of the soil. They are now, however, at least in some parts of the parish, allotted for the winter pasture of the sheep that are kept on the hills in summer. The infield grounds, though

though neither limed nor marled are uncommonly fertile in natural graſs, The lands, which are limed or marled, belonging to Sir William Murray of Ochtertyre, are thrown into regular rotations of cropping: And the tenants are thriving, under this ſyſtem. But the greater part of the ſoil is better fitted to produce graſs than corn; as much of it lies in ſteep banks, abounds with ſtones, and is liable to be waſhed away by the rains when in tillage. There are no commons in the pariſh; and little muir, or waſte ground, is brought into tillage, except by the above mentioned proprietor and his tenants. Although a great proportion of the land is incapable of being cultivated, yet there is enough of it arable, for producing more than is neceſſary for the maintenance of its inhabitants.

Produce and Climate.—The principal crops are oats and barley. Potatoes and peaſe are the only green crops raiſed by the tenants. Turnips are only ſown by a very few, chiefly proprietors. The ſoil of the pariſh fit for culture, when well treated, produces excellent barley, which, all things conſidered, is found to be a more profitable crop than wheat, which has been very little attempted here. A conſiderable quantity of lint is raiſed in the pariſh; particularly on the haugh grounds, which, from their ſituation, receive an annual depoſit of rich mud; or on the ſpots of infield, which have been for ſome years in graſs, for the ſecond crop; or in old parks, of good and well-laid-down land, alſo for the ſecond crop; and on the moſt fertile of the outfields, which can admit of being well watered. In ſhort, the propenſity to ſowing lint here is ſo great, from the profits ariſing from it, that the more intelligent proprietors reſtrict their tenants to a certain quantity; as lint is a very ſcourging crop, and leaves nothing behind for recruiting the ſoil.—From what has been ſaid of the pariſh,

with regard to ſituation and ſoil, it will appear, that it muſt be healthy: And it really is ſo; few dying before a mature age.

Rivers and Fiſh.—The principal river is the Erne; which would abound with ſalmon, if they were not prevented from getting up, by the cruives and fixed nets near the mouth of the river. As the proprietors above can get few of them in ſummer, they take no charge of them during the ſpawning ſeaſon, when great numbers of them are deſtroyed. It is therefore probable, that the owners of the cruives would find more advantage in the common uſe of nets, if the proprietors of the upper grounds had an intereſt in protecting the ſalmon during the forbidden time, becauſe the numbers would be much greater than what are now allowed to be bred. And it is a well known fact, that a very great proportion of the ſalmon bred in a river return to it, unleſs prevented by ſome accidental or artificial cauſe.

Lakes and Echo.—There are ſeveral ſmall lakes in the pariſh. The largeſt of them, Lochturret, lies in Glenturret, and is ſurrounded by very bold craggy mountains. It is about a mile long, and a quarter of a mile broad. There is alſo a ſmall lake, in the ſame glen, about a mile north from the former, remarkable for the great number of trouts which are collected in a ſmall opening in the middle of it, the only place which is free from weeds. There is another lake, called the *Loch of Monivaird*, which covers about 30 acres, and contains pike, perch and eels. This lake, ſituated at the bottom of a fine hanging wood, and ſurrounded by cultivated fields and plantations, is a delightful object to paſſengers, and a great beauty to the pleaſure grounds of Ochtertyre. It contains a rich treaſure of ſhell marle, which is taken up, in many places,

places, from the depth of 24 feet; and although covered, in ſome parts, with 5 or 6 feet of moſs, or mud, which muſt be previouſly removed by the dragging inſtrument, it is, notwithſtanding, obtained at an expence of from 2½d. to 3d. per boll. It is principally by means of this marle, that the proprietor has cultivated a conſiderable tract of waſte and unproductive ground, and induced his tenants to adopt a ſpirited and regular ſyſtem of huſbandry.—On the banks of the laſt mentioned lake, there is a fine repeating echo, produced, it is ſuppoſed, from the walls of an old ruinous caſtle, which ſtands on a gently riſing ground running out into the middle of the lake; and which was a place of ſtrength in ancient times, being then ſurrounded with water, and aceeſſible only in one place by a drawbridge.

Woods and Hills.—All kinds of wood, produced in Scotland, thrive remarkably well in this pariſh; but the oak ſeems to be a particular favourite of the ſoil. Beſides the oak and birch, of which the copſewood chiefly conſiſts, a great variety of other trees have been planted of late, both on the eſtate of Lawers, the property of Colonel Robertſon, and on that of Ochtertyre, the property of Sir William Murray; particularly on the lands of the latter, who has, for more than 20 years, planted annually incredible numbers of all ſorts.—The higheſt mountain, on the northern extremity of the pariſh, is *Benchonzie*, which ſignifies the moſſy mountain, there being about 40 acres, on its ſummit, covered with a ſpecies of moſs. Its elevation, above the level of the ſea, is 2922 feet. Near the baſe of this mountain, on the eaſt, is a cluſter of ſmall conical hills, which ſtrike the eye of every ſtranger as a curious *luſus naturæ*. *Torlum*, a hill on the ſouthern extremity of the pariſh, is 1,400 feet above the level of the ſea. The hills in the pariſh are in general very rocky, and covered with

heath. They have, however, many green ſpots intermixed; and they anſwer well for paſturing ſheep, with which they are now covered.

Wild Animals.—The principal birds of prey are the eagle, kite, raven and falcon, which build their neſts in the craggy precipices of Glenturret. This glen was famous, in former times, for producing falcons of the beſt kind, when hawking was a favourite amuſement in this country. It produced the pair, which the late Duke of Atholl preſented to the King at his coronation, as a token of his holding the Iſle of Man of the Crown of England. On the hills, are grouſe, dottorel, plover, and ſeveral migratory birds, whoſe names are not very well known here. A few ptarmigans are to be met with on the ſummit of Benchonzie; birds which frequent only the tops of high mountains, and which are ſuppoſed to feed on the inſects bred among the grey moſs, which is almoſt the only plant that grows on ſuch elevated ground. In the hilly part of the pariſh, the ſportſmen ſometimes meet with a ſpecies of hare, which is of a bluiſh colour in ſummer, and white as ſnow in winter. The principal water fowl, which frequent the lakes, are the wild duck, teal, and widgeon. In the low grounds, are found all the birds which uſually breed in a woody country. The bullfinches have become very numerous of late, attracted, it is ſuppoſed, by the bloſſoms of the larch trees, which abound in the young plantations, and which afford them food, before the fruit trees put forth their buds. There are partridges, hares and rabbits, in abundance; and a few foxes, badgers, wild cats, martins and otters.

Black Cattle, Horſes, Sheep, &c.—There are about 240 horſes in the pariſh, between 900 and 1000 black cattle, and about 5000 ſheep. The horſes are of a middling ſize, and in general

general not very handſome, as the common people pay little attention to the improvement of the breed. They are equally negligent with regard to their black cattle; but it is hoped, that the prizes, which the gentlemen of this country mean to diſtribute annually, among the owners of the beſt bulls, will have the effect of improving the breed of cattle. The breed of horſes, too, would ſoon improve, were every conſiderable proprietor to keep a handſome ſtallion for the uſe of his tenants. The ſheep of this country are of the black faced kind, and came originally from Linton. They are hardy; but their wool is ſhaggy and coarſe. The average price of wool, this year, is 8s. per ſtone. The carcaſe weighs about 2 ſtones Dutch. Had the hill grounds been let to experienced ſheep farmers from the ſouth country, the breed of ſheep, and the wool, would perhaps have been more improved by this time, and higher rents given for the ſheep walks. But as theſe advantages could not eaſily be obtained, without depopulating the country, the proprietors have let the hill grounds to their old tenants, contenting themſelves with what rent they can eaſily afford to pay. A few of the Cheviot ſheep have been lately introduced into the flocks kept in the low grounds, for the uſe of private families, and thrive very well. The hill tenants, however, ſeem unwilling as yet to make trial of them, as they think them too large for their paſture, and not hardy enough for ſtanding out ſevere winters. As the paſture improves under the ſheep ſyſtem, a larger ſpecies of that animal will be gradually introduced.

Rent and Proprietors—The arable land, in general, lets from about 10s. to 15s. per acre; a ſmall part of it, indeed, for 20s. and upwards. The hill grounds are not let by meaſure, but by the lump.—The proprietors are 12 in number; of whom only 2 of the greater, and 1 of the ſmaller heritors reſide in the pa-

riſh.

riſh. The arable farms are, in general, from 20l. to 30l. a year. There are a few tenants who pay from 40l. to 60l.

Eccleſiaſtical State.—There are two or three of the Epiſcopal church, a few Antiburgher Seceders, two or three Bereans, a ſect of which Mr. BARCLAY, in Edinburgh, is the founder, and one Roman Catholic. The Earl of Kinnoul is patron. The ſtipend amounts to 50l. in money, and 2 chalders of victual, half meal, half barley, and a glebe of about 7 acres. A proceſs of augmentation is now depending. The manſe was built about 40 years ago. In 1782 it was repaired, and new offices erected. It is not certain, when the churches of Monivaird and Strowan were built. About the beginning of laſt century, a party of the Murrays and Drummonds having quarrelled, the former being worſted in a ſkirmiſh, fled for ſanctuary to the church of Monivaird, whither they were purſued by their ſavage enemies, who ſet fire to the roof, which was then thatched with heather, and burnt many of them to death. The church is now in very good repair; and, though far from being elegant or commodious, it is at leaſt as decent as many of the churches of Strathern.

Poor.—The number of poor at preſent on the roll, who receive a ſtated weekly allowance, is ſix. Beſides theſe, however, there are ſeveral others who receive alms occaſionally. The funds for their ſupport are the weekly collections, dues for the uſe of the mortcloth, and proclamation of banns, together with the intereſt of 72l., amounting in all, at an average, to 24l. a year. There are no poor people in the pariſh, it is ſaid, who beg from door to door; and the few, who are in very ſtraitened circumſtances, never apply for relief to the pariſh funds, till they are compelled by dire neceſſity *.

Population.

* In the ſeaſons of dearth, in 1782 and 1783, there were ſeveral poor houſeholders,

Population.—The inhabitants have greatly decreaſed within theſe laſt 40 years. This decreaſe is chiefly owing to the union of ſome of the ſmall arable farms, and to the removal of many of the cotters to the neighbouring villages of Crieff and Comrie.

The return to Dr. Webſter's inquiries, was - - -	1460
At preſent, the number amounts only to - - - -	1025
Decreaſe, - - - -	435

The average of births for 10 years, from 1734 to 1743, is -	46
Ditto, from 1750 to 1759, - - - - - -	36
Ditto, from 1782 to 1791, - - - - - -	30
Ditto of marriages, from 1782 to 1791, - - - -	7
Ditto of deaths, for the ſame period, - - - - -	11

Antiquities.—There are no croſſes nor obeliſks in the pariſh, except the croſs in the market place at Strowan, concerning which there is nothing remarkable, but that the initials of JESUS NAZARENUS REX JUDÆORUM are the only characters on it that are legible. The remains of two Roman poſts of obſervation are to be ſeen on the eſtate of Ochtertyre; one of which is ſo choſen as to command a view of the camp at Dalginroſs, the other that of the camp on the muir of Orchil. On a hill called *Tom-a-haſtle* (i. e. *Caſtlehill*), about 3 miles eaſt from Dalginroſs, the traces of a fortification are ſtill viſible. About 50 years ago, moſt of the ſtones were carried away by the proprietor, to incloſe ſome grounds at the bottom of

holders, who could not be prevailed upon to accept of any of the meal allowed by Government, till they were told it was a preſent from the King, and not furniſhed from the poor's funds. This ſpirit of independence prevails moſt among the oldeſt ſet of tenantry in the pariſh; who, having a kind of family character to ſupport, are averſe from doing any thing that would ſeem to degrade it.

of the hill. Whether this fort was erected by the Earl of Strathern, as tradition says, or whether it is of a more ancient date, cannot be easily ascertained *.

Eminent Men.—Colonel Dow, author of *the History of Hindostan*, whose literary merits are well known, was a native of this parish.

Advantages and Disadvantages.—The salubrity of the air, the fine springs of water, the numerous rivulets, the goodness of the roads, and a variety of other circumstances, render this part

* Near the western extremity of the parish, there are two Druidical temples. Besides these remains of antiquity, many *barrows*, or heaps of stones, known, in the ancient language of the country, by the name of *cairns*, and intended for sepulchral monuments, were to be seen a few years ago, near the banks of the Erne, towards the eastern extremity of the parish; but they have been lately removed, for the purpose of building stone fences; and no memorial now remains of the illustrious dead whom they once covered. Some miles to the northward of the church of Monivaird, there is a very large barrow, called *Carn Chainichin*, or monumental heap of Kenneth. From the name and situation, we presume it was raised to the memory of that Kenneth, whose death is recorded in the following lines of our oldest historical chronicles:

Quo truncatus erat, BARDORUM CAMPUS *habetur*,
A nato KENNEDI, *nomine* MALCOLOMI.

This Kenneth was the IVth of that name. He is usually mentioned in history, by his epithet of GRIM, or GRIMUS; in the same manner as ODO has lost his proper name for its adjunct DUFF, or DUFFUS. The register of St. Andrews informs us, that "*Kenneth (Grim)*, son of *Odo (Dubh-Odo)*, was slain by *Malcolm* "the II. and son of Kenneth the III. at Moieghvard, in 1001." About 200 yards west from the church of Monivaird, a barrow was opened some years ago, in which two urns were found, each containing a stone of a bluish colour, very hard, about four inches long, and of a triangular shape, somewhat resembling the head of an ax. One of them is in the possession of PETER MURRAY, Esq. younger of Ochtertyre. I am told they are of the same kind of stone and shape, with those which the inhabitants of the South Sea islands fasten to a shaft, and use as a weapon in war.

part of Strathern a delightful country to live in, particularly during the ſummer ſeaſon. The chief inconvenience, we feel, is our diſtance from coal; which, though brought in carts, over a hilly road, upwards of 20 miles, is a cheaper fuel than peats or wood. We have now, however, the proſpect of having this inconvenience in ſome degree remedied, by the turnpike road, that is propoſed to be carried from Crieff to Blairngone, which is our neareſt coal pit. Indeed, nothing ſeems to be wanting but coals to make this a very thriving country. For if that neceſſary article could be got at a moderate price, we ſhould find limeſtone in abundance for improving our lands. We ſhould alſo have manufactures of different kinds eſtabliſhed among us, as we have the fineſt falls of water for driving machinery, particularly on the Erne and the Turrot, in the neighbourhood of the populous village of Crieff. On the latter river, there are not leſs than 15 or 16 mills, of different kinds, in the courſe of a mile and a half; and as it takes its riſe from a lake of conſiderable extent, by erecting a dike at the mouth of the lake (which could be done for 15l.), a ſufficient quantity of water could be obtained, for driving the heavieſt machinery, even in the greateſt drought. The manufactured goods could be eaſily tranſported, from Crieff to Perth, by the turnpike road, which is now forming between theſe two towns; or by a canal, which could be carried from Crieff to within a mile of the Tay, without a lock. Theſe improvements, however, we do not expect to ſee carried to their greateſt height, unleſs we can find coal nearer than Blairngone. Our proprietors, therefore, who ſhew abundance of public ſpirit on moſt occaſions, ſhould unite, and make a fair trial for diſcovering coal in Strathern. Were they to take the lead, all the pariſhes around would certainly contribute liberally towards ſuch an undertaking.

NUMBER XXXVII.

PARISH OF KILBRIDE IN ARRAN.

(*County of Bute—Presbytery of Kintyre—Synod of Argyll.*)

By the Rev. Mr. GERSHOM STUART, *Minister.*

Names and Extent.

ARRAN is derived from the Celtic word *Arin*. *Ar*, signifies *high*, and *In* an *island*. Kilbride is said to be compounded of *Kil*, a burying place, and *Bride*, a contraction for Bridget, the name of an ancient saint. The extent of the parish, from Dippin on the south, to Lochranza on the north, is 14 miles. A ridge of hills separates it, on the west, from Kilmorie. The Isle of Arran is 7 miles in breadth.

Soil, Produce and Cattle.—The soil is hard and stoney. Most of the farms lying on the declivity of hills, the best prepared land scarce yields two returns. To supply the deficiency of corn, the inhabitants plant great quantities of potatoes, which are their principal food for 9 months in the year. They lay out, upon seed corn and meal, about 500l. a year; and they sell annually about 200 bolls of barley; besides

beſides 500 head of black cattle, and 80 ſheep. Part of the latter are killed for home conſumption. Out of theſe articles, and the profits of their fiſh, they are enabled to pay their rents.

Fiſhing.—Fiſh of all kinds are caught round the iſland. In the beginning of winter, fiſhermen come from the North Country, to fiſh for the Glaſgow market, and continue with ſucceſs till May. In July, the herrings frequent the coaſt, when the inhabitants beſtow the moſt unwearied application to the fiſhing till the end of November. It is computed, that the boats, employed in this fiſhing, bring into the iſland no leſs than 1000l. a year.

Climate and Diſeaſes.—The air is very ſalubrious. There is no ſultry heat in ſummer, the air being conſtantly purified by land or ſea breezes. People advanced in years, however, often complain of coughs and rheumatiſms during winter. Theſe diſeaſes are much owing to the dampneſs of their houſes, and the ſcarcity of fuel, to render them warm and comfortable, which is occaſioned by the *coal tax*. For many years paſt, a great number of children died of the natural ſmall pox. Parents are now more reconciled to inoculation, as they find that this artificial diſtemper, under the direction of a ſkilful ſurgeon, ſaves the lives of numbers. There is a diſorder, no leſs fatal to children, which ſeems to be peculiar to this iſland, as it is ſeldom known any where elſe, called the *eight-day ſickneſs*. Infants are ſeized with it the 8th day after birth, by the falling down of the jaw, attended with violent convulſions. No means have yet been found effectual to remove this diſorder. Much of the cauſe is aſcribed to unſkilful midwives*.

* This diſeaſe is mentioned by Dr. UNDERWOOD (vol. I. p. 336), under the title

Mountains and Minerals.—Goatfield is the higheſt hill in the pariſh. It is 2,840 feet perpendicular above the level of the ſea. There is not a more extenſive proſpect in Britain, than the top of Goatfield affords. Many tranſparent ſtones are found on it, naturally formed into pentagons, heptagons and octagons, and all pointed at the top as if done by art. Lapidaries purchaſe theſe ſtones, and apply them to various uſes*. At *Corrie*, near the ſea-ſhore, there is a rich mine of marle and lime ſtone, which might, at a ſmall expence, be carried coaſt-wiſe round the iſland, to the weſt ſide; where there are extenſive farms, upon a ſoil of a mixed loam of clay and moſs. Marle and lime, laid on this ground, would produce great crops of corn, which is much wanted in the iſland. At *Cock of Arran* there are free ſtone, lime ſtone, iron ore, blind coal and ſlates. The ſlates, on trial, are found to be of an excellent quality. Within an Engliſh mile of Lochranza harbour, a cart road is already made, from the ſlate quarry to the ſhore. On both ſides of *Lamblaſh Bay*, there is a fine free ſtone, between the beds of which *craw coal* is found. And it is affirmed, that wherever this appears, there is a body of coal under it†. A coal, ſo near a fine harbour as

* title of "*the ſeven days diſeaſe*;" but he does not deſcribe it accurately, nor attempt to inveſtigate its nature. In the opinion of an eminent phyſician in this city, "the diſeaſe cannot proceed from any injury, which the child can ſuffer during delivery; and therefore the midwives can have no concern in occaſioning it, unleſs they ſwerve ſo far from their profeſſional duty, as arbitrarily to dictate ſome improper mode of managing the child, for the firſt ſeven days after birth." According to the opinion of another eminent phyſician in town, (Dr. W. W.) it is "that *ſpecies of the locked jaw, mentioned by ſeveral authors as the* triſmus infantum, *which is very fatal to new born children in the Weſt Indies.*"

* They are known, among the jewellers, by the name of *Arran ſtones*, *Cairngorms*, and *Scotch topazes*; and are often ſet in gold for rings, and other ornaments. The colour is generally a dark brown; but ſome are found of a beautiful yellow, which are reckoned very valuable.

† About 70 years ago, col'iers were employed to make trial for coals. Owing to ſome treachery, the ſearch proved unſucceſsful, and no farther trial has ever ſince been made.

as Lamblaſh, would be of ineſtimable value to the Duke of Hamilton, the proprietor, and would tend greatly to the improvement of the whole iſland.

Harbours and Lighthouſe.—There are only 2 harbours in the iſland, viz. *Lamblaſh* and *Lochranza*. Lamblaſh Bay is a ſemicircle. *Holy Iſle*, in the mouth of it, forms the harbour, having an inlet or opening at both points. A lighthouſe is lately erected on the iſle of *Pladda*, which directs ſhips into the port of Lamblaſh at night. The ſouth end of Arran is rocky; and many ſhipwrecks happened there before the light-houſe was erected. Lochranza, at the north end of Arran, affords a ſafe harbour for ſmall boats, in the time of the herring fiſhing. An old caſtle, ſituated at the bottom of the bay, ſerves to direct the boats into the harbour.

Population.—The number of ſouls, at preſent (1793) in the pariſh, is - - - - - - - 2545
The return to Dr. Webſter, in 1755, was - - 1369
Increaſe, - - 1176

This increaſe would have been conſiderably greater, had not the population diminiſhed of late; as upwards of 300 ſailors go annually to the royal navy, the bounty fiſhing, or on board merchant ſhips, many of whom never return.

Eccleſiaſtical State and Poor.—The Duke of Hamilton is patron. There are 2 miniſters in the iſland, each of whom has a yearly ſtipend of 70l., with a glebe and a manſe. An aſſiſtant to both is ſettled at Lochranza, and has the charge of the northern diſtrict, with an annual ſalary of 500 merks Scotch. —There are only 12 on the poor's roll. Quarterly collections

are

are made for their ſupport, and diſtributed according to their age and neceſſities. There is alſo 40l. lent out at intereſt, allotted for their relief in caſes of ſcarcity, or other extraordinary emergencies: And certain penſioners of the Duke of Hamilton's are regularly ſupplied with meal by his factor.

Proprietor and Rent.—The Duke of Hamilton is proprietor of the whole iſland, except 5 ſmall farms. The yearly rent of Arran is 3,500l.

Character.—The whole inhabitants belong to the Eſtabliſhed Church, and are a ſober well diſpoſed people. They attend divine ſervice with great regularity; are well acquainted with the Scriptures; ſhew a good example to their children, and inſtruct them in the principles of Chriſtianity.

NUMBER

NUMBER XXXVIII.

PARISH OF MOONZIE.

(*County and Synod of Fife——Preſbytery of Cupar.*)

By the Rev. Mr. ANDREW IRELAND, *Miniſter.*

Name and Extent.

THE origin of the name is unknown. It is probably derived from the Gaelic, the language which formerly prevailed all over the peninſula of Fife. There is a pariſh, with almoſt the ſame name (*Monzie*), in the preſbytery of Auchterarder, where the names of places are alſo of Celtic extraction.—Moonzie, in point of extent and population, is perhaps the ſmalleſt parochial diſtrict in Scotland, and furniſhes very ſlender materials indeed, for ſtatiſtical obſervation and inquiry. It is only 1 Scotch mile in length, and about 1½ in breadth. The number of acres is between 1,000 and 1,100.

Surface, Soil, Produce, Cattle, &c.—A great part of the pariſh is hilly, and the reſt is flat and low. The ſoil is very thin, but fertile. In a wet ſummer, it produces very good crops, both of corn and graſs; but, in a dry ſeaſon, all the hilly ground is quite parched.—There are 17 ploughs in the pariſh. The farmers, now, only put 2 horſes to the plough, and 1 man both holds and drives. This is a very great ſaving. There are about 34 or 36 horſes in the pariſh; and a very few ſheep, which

which one of the farmers keeps for his own private uſe. There are alſo ſome black cattle bred for ſale.

Farms, Proprietors and Rent.—There are only 4 farms in the pariſh, viz. *Moonzie*, *Lords-Cairnie*, *Torr*, and *Colluthie*. The three former belong to the Earl of Crawfurd, and the latter to Mrs. Bell of Hilton. The rent will amount to ſomething more than 1000l. Sterling per annum.

Population.—The population has decreaſed greatly within theſe 40 years, conſidering the number of inhabitants.

The return to Dr. Webſter, in the year 1755, was -	249
The number of ſouls at preſent (March 1793), is only	171
Decreaſe, -	78

Under 10 years of age, -	30	From 50 to 70, -	35
From 10 to 20, -	32	Annual average of births	3
From 20 to 50, -	74	Do. deaths, rather leſs than	3

Church, School and Poor.—The value of the living, including the glebe, is about 90l. Sterling. Lord Crawfurd is patron. The manſe got ſome repairs laſt ſummer, and the kirk and offices will need them ſoon.—The ſchoolmaſter's ſalary is 5l. 10s. per annum. The ſchool dues are very ſmall.—There are only 3 or 4 perſons in the pariſh who get charity; but they do not need much. The fund is very ſmall.

Character, &c.—The people are very decent and regular in their attendance upon divine worſhip. They are alſo very diligent and induſtrious in procuring ſubſiſtence for their families.—This pariſh labours under no particular diſadvantage. It is a great way off from coal; but there is now a fine turnpike road the moſt of the way. It has one great advantage, that it is within 2 ſhort miles of the town Cupar, where the people get a good price for any thing they have to ſell.

NUMBER

NUMBER XXXIX.

PARISH OF SYMINGTON.

(*County of Lanark—Preſbytery of Biggar—Synod of Lothian and Tweeddale.*)

By the Rev. Mr. JAMES FINLAYSON, *Miniſter.*

Situation, Extent, Proſpect, &c.

SYMINGTON is ſituated 30 miles S. W. from Edinburgh, and 33 miles S. W. from Glaſgow. The pariſh is 3 miles in length, and nearly the ſame in breadth. The arable land lies along the banks of the Clyde, and the paſture reaches to the top of *Tinto*, on which there is a cairn of ſtones, ſaid to be the remains of a Druidical temple. This mountain, though not the higheſt in Scotland, yet being about 2,400 feet above the level of the ſea, commands a beautiful and moſt extenſive proſpect: With the naked eye, you can ſee part of 16 different counties.—The village is ſituated at the foot of a riſing ground, called the *Caſtle-hill*, which has formerly been a place of ſtrength, and is now planted with various kinds of trees.

Cultivation and Produce.—Improvements in agriculture are carried on with great ſpirit. Twenty years ago, there was not

an acre of ſown graſs in the pariſh; now, almoſt every tenant has part of his farm properly laid down with a crop of rye-graſs and clover.—The rule, which they generally obſerve, in the quantity and proportion of graſs ſeeds to each acre, is,—red clover, 10 lb.; white ditto, 2 lb.; rib-graſs, 2 lb.; and rye-graſs, ½ boll.—Ten years ago, there were no turnips to be ſeen; and now, every one who is not doing more or leſs in that way, is conſidered as void of all ſpirit and ſkill. It is found by experience, that theſe green crops, not only meliorate the ground, but are of more preſent value than the beſt crops of barley or oats*.—The occupiers of ſmall farms go on, or ought to go on, ſyſtematically, in the following rotation: 1ſt, potatoes and turnips; 2d, barley ſown with graſs ſeeds; 3d, hay; 4th, paſture; 5th, oats. This rotation, or a rotation of 4 crops, ſetting apart the 5th diviſion for perpetual paſture, keeps the ground clean and in good heart. The crofts of Symington are divided, with hedge and ditch, into incloſures of 10, 15, and 20 acres, and let from 1l. 5s. to 1l. 13s. per acre. The larger farms, which are not incloſed, let at about 10s. per acre. Of theſe, only one is rented above 100l.

Being

* The ſudden change, in this place, is to be aſcribed, in a great meaſure, to the example ſet by the late Major TELFER, who, on retiring from the army, in order to amuſe himſelf, and advance the happineſs of mankind, took a leaſe, from his brother, of 100 acres of the moſt uſeleſs part of the eſtate, wholly covered with broom, and let for a ſheep walk, at 8l. per annum. In the ſpace of ſix years, this barren field was made to produce excellent crops of corn, turnips and hay; and WOULD NOW, with the ſteading of houſes, *let at* EIGHT TIMES THE FORMER RENT. Lime being got at four miles diſtance, the expence was moderate. This example had, as might be expected, a noble effect. Some are ſtill attached to the old huſbandry. All new ſchemes, however wiſe and beneficial, in this and every other department, will, for a time, be ſtrongly oppoſed by pride and prejudice: But *bigotry in farming*, is more eaſily eradicated than *bigotry in religion*, as the bad conſequences of a wrong ſyſtem are more viſible, and ſooner felt, in the one caſe than in the other.

Being at a distance from any great town, potatoes sell commonly at 4s. the boll, and therefore are not raised in great quantities, and no more than is absolutely necessary should be raised, as they are a scourging crop, as well as lint. One acre of turnips will produce more food for cattle, than two acres of potatoes *.

Heritors, Church, School, &c.—There are 3 heritors, and 1 feuer. The principal heritor resides occasionally. Mr. Lockhart of Carnwath is patron.—The living, (or more properly the *starving* †), is 55l. 11s. 1⅓d. Indeed, much cannot be expected, as the rental does not exceed 700l.; and there are 5 parochial churches, and 2 dissenting meeting houses, within 3 miles of the church of Symington ‡. The church was repaired in 1761, and the manse rebuilt in 1790.—The schoolmaster's salary is 8l. 6s. 8d. He has taught for these 50 years, with such fidelity and unwearied perseverance, as, in some lines of life, would have loaded him with riches and honour.

Poor.—The funds for the provision of the poor, are the weekly collections, (which, at an average, amount to 6l. per annum), and the interest of 100l., gradually raised by

* The price of labour has, of late, increased according to the rapid progress of manufactures. A ploughman, who was formerly hired at 5l., now demands, and gets, 8l. a year; and the wages of all labourers, mechanics, &c. are raised, nearly in the same proportion.

† The present incumbent is married, and has six sons and one daughter. He was admitted in 1783.

‡ Kirks have been planted, and parishes marked out, without rule or judgment; for there are many parishes more numerous, and many much more extensive than these six conjoined. This is an old grievance, and ought to be redressed, before any new object of reform be taken into consideration.

the joint contributions of the inhabitants, without the smallest assistance from the heritors. These have hitherto supplied all demands, and none were ever known to beg. The elders are so attentive to the distressed, that they have seldom any occasion to call for assistance; and there is no distinction made, whether they belong to the Establishment or not. Besides supplying the ordinary poor, the kirk-session are always ready to accommodate industrious persons, who have met with any unforeseen misfortunes, or who are unable to work, with small sums, to be returned on a change of circumstances. This practice is attended with happy consequences, not only to the persons thus relieved, but to the public; and it is found to be a most effectual method of advancing the interest of virtue and industry.

Population.—The population has increased within these 40 years.

STATISTICAL TABLE of the PARISH of SYMINGTON.

Number of individals,	307	Number of weavers and their apprentices,	26
Return to Dr. Webster, in 1755,	264	——— shoemakers,	2
Increase,	43	——— dancing masters,	1
Number of males,	152	——— coopers,	1
——— females,	155	——— masons,	3
——— Burgher Seceders,	8	——— blacksmiths,	2
——— Relievers,	18	——— wrights,	1
——— persons under 10,	76	——— tailors,	2
——— from 10 to 20,	77	——— hecklers,	1
——— ——— 20 to 30,	47	——— millers,	1
——— ——— 30 to 40,	37	——— schoolmasters,	1
——— ——— 40 to 50,	27	——— clergymen,	1
——— ——— 50 to 60,	20	——— day labourers,	5
——— ——— 60 to 70,	14	——— work horses,	44
——— ——— 70 to 80,	8	——— young ditto,	30
——— ——— 80 to 90,	2	——— cows, young and old,	255
Total,	307	——— sheep,	343

Number

Number of ſwine,	7	Acres ſown with turnips,	32
——— carts,	44	Houſes built within the laſt 8 years,	7
——— ploughs,	14	——— rebuilt,	9
——— harrows,	44	Cattle fed on turnips,	35
Acres planted with timber,	80	Sheep fed on ditto,	100
——— ſown with graſs ſeeds,	66		

Character.—The virtues of ſobriety and induſtry, and a regular attendance on divine inſtitutions, are no where more ſtrictly obſerved. The people live comfortably, are contented with their ſituation, and well affected to the eſtabliſhed conſtitution, in church and ſtate*.—An attempt was made, at the beginning of the Seceſſion, to ſettle a diſſenting congregation in Symington, and many violent harrangues were delivered, on the *ſpots* and *blemiſhes* of the backſliding generation, and on the *errors* and *corruptions* of the church †.—The diſſenters are

* The only grievance which they complain of, is the trifling tax on BIRTHS, Every country pariſh has its philoſophers, politicians and divines. Theſe leaders of the people make their obſervations on every thing that paſſes; and their remarks are ſometimes ſhrewd and ſenſible. They apprehend, that, inſtead of *paying a duty* on the birth of a child, the parents ſhould *receive a reward*, and have privileges and immunities granted to them, according to the number of their children. But their chief objection is on the ſcore of religion. Connecting births with *baptiſm*, it is conſidered as a tax on that ordinance. Viewing it in this light, the idea, of *paying for the ſacrament*, is, of all others, the moſt impious and profane. It is ſuppoſed to imply a contempt of all the blood that has been ſhed in the proteſtant cauſe, and as giving freedom to the *beaſt, with the ſeven heads and ten horns*, to trample the memory of the old covenanters under his feet.

† As a ſpecimen of the ſpirit and eloquence of thoſe times, the following part of a prayer, for the eſtabliſhed miniſter of the place, is kept in remembrance, as uttered by one of the preachers on the green, after a diſcourſe, in which he and his brethren were repreſented in the blackeſt colours:—"Thou knoweſt "that the ſilly ſnivelling body is not worthy even to keep a door in thy houſe. "Cut

are now of a very different ſpirit. To their praiſe be it ſpoken, they are the ſons of peace and order; and have, by their decent and moderate conduct, acquired a very high degree of reſpectability, As an evidence of their moderation, ſuch as reſide here attend divine worſhip in the pariſh church occaſionally, without ſcruple of conſcience or dread of cenſure. They ſhew the utmoſt civility to the incumbent, and aſk him to viſit their families and ſick, which is done with the ſame care and attention, that is paid to the reſt of the flock.

Extraordinary Cure of Canine Madneſs.—There is a plowman living in the pariſh, named *Andrew Shanky*, who was bitten by a mad dog in April 1783. The circumſtances of the caſe, and the manner of the cure, being ſingular, and well authenticated, the relating them may lead to ſome important diſcovery, in this hitherto unexplored region of medical ſcience *. No ſuſpicion of madneſs was entertained at the time when the dog bit the man's hand; accordingly little regard was paid to it, though it bled conſiderably. The buſineſs, in which he was about to be employed, was driving lime; and an hour and a half elapſed before he arrived at the lime kiln. He ſays, that the evening was very cold; and the unſlacked hot lime, blown by the wind, fretted the wound ſo much, that he was obliged to wipe it frequently. Next day, being Sunday, the ſame dog bit the other dogs about the houſe, and ſeveral cows, belonging to the farmer whom Shanky

" Cut him down as a cumberer of the ground; tear him up, root and branch, " and caſt the wild rotten ſtump out of thy vineyard. Threſh him, Lord, and " dinna ſpare! O threſh him tightly, with the flail of thy wrath, and mak' a " ſtrae wiſp o' him to ſtap the mouth of hell!"

* It is ſaid to have been the opinion of the late Sir JOHN PRINGLE, that no cure had yet been found for the bite of a mad dog, and probably never would.

Shanky was ſerving; and likewiſe a maſtiff belonging to a carter, who was paſſing by on the Monday. The farmer began to take ſome precautions. Accordingly, the dog was chained down in a ſeparate houſe, where he refuſed food, and died in a few days. The other dogs attempted, ſome time after, to bite people. The maſtiff turned mad, and was killed.—Shanky ſays, that his mind was now filled, day and night, with the moſt dreadful apprehenſions, and he laid his account with the moſt horrible kind of death. In three weeks, one cow was ſeized with the diſeaſe, and the others ſoon after, till 10 of them died. He ſays, that the cattle foamed at the mouth; their ſides went like a pair of bellows; their dung became of the conſiſtency and colour of tar, and their hind legs failed, ſo that they fell down and died. The family, being interrogated on the ſubject, agree exactly with Shanky; and as he, and John Barclay, in the pariſh of Lamington, whom he was ſerving at the time, are men of undoubted veracity, no matter of fact can be better aſcertained; and there is no queſtion but the hot lime from the kill operated the cure.

NUMBER

NUMBER XL.

PARISH OF ALLOA.

(County of Clackmannan—Presbytery of Stirling—Synod of Perth and Stirling.

Drawn up from the Communications of the Rev. Mr. JAMES FRAME, *and of* JOHN FRANCIS ERSKINE, *Esq. of* ALLOA, *Representative of the* MARR *Family.*

Origin of the Name.

THE name, like most other places, has been variously spelt. In the charter granted by King Robert, in the 9th year of his reign, (anno 1315), to *Thomas de Erskyne*, it is spelt *Alway*; and, in some subsequent ones, *Aulway*, *Auleway*, and sometimes *Alloway*. Camden, in his *Britannia*, seems to think it the *Alauna* of the Romans *. He says, "Ptolemy

* When the Romans crossed the Forth, it seems probable, that it was either by the ford of Manor, a small creek, about 6 miles higher up the water than Alloa, or at the ford of the Frosk, which is only a mile and a half from it. There are vestiges of a Roman causeway, running into the river at Manor; and it is only within these 13 or 14 years, that the remains of a small *castellum*, for protecting the passage, have been been totally defaced. In 1774, a sword, or dagger, of a composition resembling brass, was taken up in a salmon net, between the ford of Frosk and Manor. It had on its point a piece of a human scull. It appeared to be of Roman workmanship; and seems to confirm the opinion, that this part of the river had been frequented by the Romans, as a passage from the south to the north. This dagger was presented by Mr. ALEXANDER COLDSTREAM, schoolmaster at Crieff, (into whose hands it fell, when schoolmaster at Alloa), to the Society of Antiquarians in Perth.

"Ptolemy places Alauna ſomewhere about Sterling; and it "was either upon *Alon*, a little river, that runs here into the "Forth, or at *Alway*, a ſeat of the Erſkines ‡"

Situation.—Alloa is a port in the county of Clackmannan, ſituated on the north ſide of the river Forth, weſt long. 3° 45″ lat. 56° 10′. It is about 27¼ miles higher up the frith than Leith, and 17 lower down the river than Stirling. The windings of the Forth, between Stirling and Alloa, are very remarkable; the diſtance, from the quay of Alloa, to the quay of Stirling, meaſured in the centre of the river, is 17 miles, and to the bridge of Stirling it is 19½ miles; whereas the diſtance, by land, from Alloa to the bridge of Stirling, does not exceed 7 miles, though the turnings in the road are numerous. It is the moſt conſiderable port in the river; for the upper part of the Frith of Forth begins at Kennet Pans and Higgins Neuk.—There are 3½ feet greater depth of water, in the harbour of Alloa, than on the bar of Leith.

Extent, and Soil.—The pariſh is, on an average, about 4 miles from E. to W. and about 2 miles from N. to S. It conſiſts of about 3,900 acres. It is bounded on the ſouth by the Forth; and the bend of the river is ſo great, that the banks meaſure about 5½ miles. The grounds, on the banks of the Forth, are flat, and of a very

‡ It might ſeem whimſical to derive the name of Alloa from the Greek, and yet there are ſeveral circumſtances, which might tend to juſtify that conjecture. Αλωα was a rural feaſt of the Athenians, which was adopted by the Romans, and anſwered to our *harveſt home*. It was alſo uſed to ſignify a grove, or fruitful plain, well adapted to the celebration of ſuch a feaſt. If we ſuppoſe, that the Romans made good their paſſage acroſs the Forth, about the time of harveſt, we may eaſily conjecture that they ſhould conceive the idea of celebrating their harveſt feaſt, at a time which they thought propitious to their wiſhes, eſpecially in a ſituation peculiarly fitted for that purpoſe; and hence they might very naturally affix to that place the name of Αλωα.

rich *carſe*, or kerſe ſoil. Thoſe on the banks of the Devon, are a good carſe or clay, though not quite ſo fertile. The grounds riſe pretty ſuddenly from the carſes, and are of a light kind, but fertile. Towards the centre of the pariſh, the grounds are pretty high. They are moſt agreeably diverſified; but the land is much infeior in quality.

Town and Tower, &c.—The ſituation of the town is pleaſant. There are ſtrata of rock, that run a conſiderable way between the kerſe and the high grounds, and break off about the Ferry, a little above the harbour. On part of this rock is built the Tower, and the ancient part of the town of Alloa.—The Tower is the reſidence of the repreſentatives of the family of MARR, and is now poſſeſſed by a grandſon of the late Earl; who has repaired the houſe, and made great improvements on the land. It was built prior to the year 1300. The higheſt turret is 89 feet from the ground, and the thickneſs of the walls is 11 feet. Notwithſtanding its being ſituated on a flat, there is a moſt uncommonly fine rich proſpect, from the top of the Tower; and 9 counties can be diſcerned from it. The gardens, which were laid out by the late Earl, in the old taſte, of long avenues, and clipt hedges, are conſiderably modernized; and the large lawn is now dreſſing up; ſo that the many fine trees in it will be ſhewn to advantage. There was originally a natural wood to the eaſtward, and the greateſt part of it ſtill remains. All kinds of trees, thrive remarkably well; and there are oaks, beeches, elms, planes or ſycamores, limes, and aſhes of conſiderable circumference. There is an uncommon fine black poplar, that meaſures 13½ feet round, at the height of 3 or 4 feet from the ground. The town formerly almoſt ſurrounded the tower, as in the rude ages they afforded mutual benefits to each other. Within theſe 30 years, many old houſes, ſituated near the tower, have

have been purchaſed by the family. Moſt of the ſtreets are narrow and irregular*.

Harbour, Dock, and Ferry.—At the end of this walk, is the harbour of Alloa, where, at neap tides, the water riſes from 12 to 15 feet, and at ſpring tides from 17 to 22. The quay is built of rough hewn ſtone, in a ſubſtantial manner; and runs within the land, and forms a *pow*, or ſmall creek, where the rivulet, that runs through the N. E. end of the town, falls into the river. There is an act of parliament, that lays a ſmall duty on the anchorage, for ſupport and improvement of the harbour; and this laſt year, the truſtees of this fund have conſiderably widened the pow.—A little above the harbour, there is an excellent dry dock, capable of receiving veſſels of great burthen; both from the depth of the water, which is 16 feet at ſpring tides, and the width of the gates, which is 34½, free of all obſtructions. Oppoſite to the dock, there is a great depth of water, with excellent anchorage, and full room to ſwing the largeſt veſſel. As the dock has no connection with the harbour, nor is ſituated near any buildings, the crews of the veſſels that are repairing can cook on board.—Above the dry dock there is a ferry, which is ſometimes called the *Craig Ward*, and ſometimes the *King's Ferry*, where two very complete piers have been built, one on each ſide of the river; which renders it an eaſy, ſafe, and

* The late Earl ſeems to have been particularly attentive to the healthineſs of the town, and to have endeavoured to make the ſtreets broader, and as ſtraight as the irregularity of the former ones would admit of, ſo as to unite them. He built one ſtreet on a regular plan. It runs in a line parallel to the gardens. It is called *John's Street*, and leads to the harbour. It is between 76 and 80 feet broad, and terminates in a beautiful gravel walk. A row of lime trees, on every ſide, affords an agreeable ſhade in ſummer, and a comfortable ſhelter in winter.

commodious passage, at all times of the tide, The breadth of the water here, at high tide, is above half a mile *.

Glass-House, Tile and Tan-work.—To the west of the ferry stands a glass-house, for making bottles, which is thought to be the most conveniently situated of any in Britain. It can have whatever quantity of coals it requires, at a very easy rate, as they are conveyed from the pits, to the very door of the glass-house, by a waggon way. There is a pier adjoining to the house, by which all materials wanted are loaded and unloaded. It is said, that there are proposals making for building another house. The extent, to which the manufactory of glass has been carried, is amazing. It is not half a century, since one glass house at Leith, and one at Glasgow, supplied all Scotland, while the Company wrought the one half year at the one place, and the next at the other. Similar observations might be made on other manufactures, and lead to very enlarged speculations.—A little to the N. W. of the glass-house, there is a tile and brick work, upon a pretty large scale, and well employed. Above that, there is a good tan-work.

Fishing, Islands, Water Fowls, &c.—Before we leave the river, upon whose banks all these different works are situated, we must take notice of the fishing. It is certain, that, for many years, numbers of people took to the fishing of salmon, during the summer months, but in a bad stile, with what is called *pock nets*. They were not very successful, as might have

* If the scheme of making turnpike roads, on both sides, takes place, this will be one of the shortest, and most agreeable communications, opened between the north and the south, with scarcely any interruption from wind or tide. Mr. ERSKINE has lately begun to feu out ground for a NEW TOWN, between John Street and the Ferry, on a beautiful field, and regular plan. It promises to be an airy healthy place, and excellently calculated for those who are carrying on business at the harbour.

have been foreſeen; however, they continued, though with ſmall advantage, till a law-ſuit was carried on againſt them by the town of Stirling; and the mode of pock nets being condemned, on an old act of parliament, they were reſtrained within certain limits, from fiſhing in that manner; and the fiſhing, ſince that time, has been moſtly abandoned §.—After paſſing the ferry of *Craig Ward*, the river becomes narrower; and there are ſome beautiful iſlands, which are called *Inches*. Theſe furniſh excellent paſture for cattle during the ſummer, and are eſteemed medicinal for ſuch as are weakly or ſick. They are a gentle kind of ſalt marſh, as they are entirely covered with water in ſpring tides. Theſe Inches are frequented by great quantities of water fowl, viz. wild ducks, teals, widgeons, gulls, &c. &c. Here they find ſhelter, and a variety of food ſuited to their nature. Sometimes ſcarts, or cormorants, gooſeanders, &c. appear here. The ſtormy petterels, or what the ſailors call *Mother Cary's chickens*, were ſeen about the Ferry laſt winter; and one of them was killed by Mr. Erſkine, junior. It was thought ſingular to ſee theſe birds, who ſeldom appear near the land, ſo far up the country. Upon the point of theſe inches, they erect what are called *yares*, a ſort of ſcaffold projecting into the water; upon which they build little huts to protect them from the weather; from theſe ſcaffolds they let down, at certain times of the tide, their nets, and are often very ſucceſsful in taking the ſmaller fiſh, ſuch as herrings, *garvies*, or ſprats, *ſparlings*, or ſmelts, ſmall whitings, haddocks, ſea trouts, and eels. In this manner ſal-

mon

§ Had this reſtraint operated as it ought to have done, and obliged them to have exchanged their method, and employed the long nets, the beſt effects would probably have followed. The excuſe generally given for not trying it, is the depth of water, and foulneſs of the bottom. The laſt, it is thought might be partly remedied; and the ſucceſs which attends this method, a little farther weſt, and in the ſame pariſh, gives great encouragement to make the experiment.

mon are sometimes caught; as well as Congo eels, sturgeon, soals, turbots, cod, gurnet, or piper, and skate.*—Sometimes, about the end of September, there comes a vast shoal of fish, called *gandanooks*, or *Egyptian herrings*. They have a faint resemblance of the mackarel, but with a long sharp bill, like a snipe. This becomes fatal to them on our muddy banks, as the bill is fixed in the mud; and in this way they are entangled, and caught in great quantities, on the ebbing of the tide. They are not an unpleasant fish, but rather dry; they are however a great relief to many poor people. Porpoises now and then appear here, and sometimes small whales have been seen and taken †.

Tullibody.—In proceeding up the river, we come to the barony of Tullibody. The house is set down in the Carse, almost close to the water side. Behind it, on the north, there is a beautiful bank, well furnished with a variety of fine trees; and on each hand of this bank, almost at equal distances from the house, there are two prominences, jutting out into the Carse, which seem to protect and shelter the lower grounds. The one on the east is covered with trees, and the one on the west with some farm houses.

Rivers, Fish, &c.—In the front of the house is the river, with two of the Inches formerly mentioned. From this, up to

* In September 1777, a skate, of the species of the sharp nosed ray, was caught here, which was of a very large size. The length, from the tip of the nose to the end of the tail, was 7 feet 3 inches; the breadth, from the extremity of one fin to that of the other, 5 feet 3 inches; and it weighed 13½ stones Dutch weight, which is about 2⅛ cwt. avoirdupoise.

† About 2 years ago, an *angler*, or *fishing frog*, was thrown ashore at the Ferry. It is a fish of a very uncommon appearance, resembling a frog in its tadpole state. They sometimes grow to a large size, and are thought to be a great enemy to the dog fish.

to the *Cambus*, they continue to fiſh with tolerable ſucceſs. General Abercromby now lets the fiſhing for 40l. per annum, which formerly only gave 5l. Upon the weſt, and not a mile from the houſe of Tullibody, the river Devon diſcharges itſelf into the Forth; and veſſels of tolerable burden can load and unload, at a pier, built at the mouth of the Devon. Sloops and large boats, loaded with grain, come up near to the village of Cambus, to ſupply the mills, and a brewery, and to carry off the manufactures of both. A high dam-head, erected for driving the corn and barley mills on each ſide of the river, forms a great obſtruction to the ſalmon getting up the Devon. They are ſeen often attempting this, but they ſeldom ſucceed, except in high tides. An oil mill has lately been erected on this river, which is ſaid to perform a great deal of work. On the other ſide of the Devon, there is a rich flat piece of ground, called *Weſt Cambus*, belonging to Lord Alva. It conſiſts of 160 acres of ground, which is let in two farms, one of which has the corn mill. The tenants pay kain, ceſs and ſchoolmaſter's ſalary, over and above their rent. The lands of Bandeath, Kerſie, and part of the Froſk, which all lie on the other ſide of the Forth, are bound and thirled to the mill of Weſt Cambus*.—Weſt Cambus is bounded by the pariſh of Logie, both

* Some years ago, between the Cambus and the Froſk ford, there was dragged up a braſs collar, with this inſcription on it: "ALEXANDER STEUART, "*found guilty of death for theft, at Perth, 5th December* 1701, *and gifted by the* "*Juſticiars, as a perpetual ſervant to Sir* JOHN ARESKEN *of* ALVA." This collar is now in the poſſeſſion of the Antiquarian Society of Scotland, with the following copy of the juſticiar's gift, which is taken from the original in the Duke of Atholl's charter houſe:

"At Perth, the 5th day of December 1701. The commiſſioners of Juſti-
"ciary of the ſouth diſtrict, for ſecuring the peace in the Highlands, conſidering
"that Donald Robertſon, Alexander Stewart, John Robertſon, and Donald
"M'Donald, priſoners within the tolbooth, and indicted and tried at this Court,
"and,

both on the north and west. The lands of East Cambus run along the banks of the Devon, until they meet with the upper barony of Tullibody †. The Upper and Lower baronies of Tullibody,

" and, by virtue of the inquest, returned guilty of death; and the commissioners have changed their punishment of death to perpetual servitude, and that the said pannels are at the court's disposal: Therefore, the said commissioners have given and gifted, and hereby give and gift the said Donald M'Donald, one of the said prisoners, as a perpetual servant to the Right Honourable John Earl of Tullibardine; recommending to his Lordship to cause provide an collar of brass, iron, or copper, which, by his sentence or doom, whereof an extract is delivered to the magistrates of the said burgh of Perth, is to be upou his neck, with this inscription, 'Donald M'Donald, found guilty of death for theft, at Perth, December 5. 1701, and gifted, as a perpetual servant, to John Earl of Tullibardine:' And recommending also to his Lordship, to transport him from the said prison once the next week. And the said commissioners have ordained, and hereby ordain the magistrates of Perth, and keeper of their tolbooth, to deliver the said Donald M'Donald to the said Earl of Tullibardine, having the said collar and inscription, conform to the sentence and doom aforesaid. Extracted from the books of adjournal of the said district by me James Taylor, writer to his Majesty's signet, clerk of court *Sic subscribitur James Taylor, Clk.*"

Since this account was wrote, it has been found to be a mistake, that this collar was taken up near the Cambus; for it was dragged by a net out of the Forth, opposite to *Chamberlain' Lands*, in the parish of Logie, whereof Sir John Arskin is superior. But as the history of this collar was probably unknown to Mr. WRIGHT, when he wrote the account of the parish of LOGIE, it is inserted here as a curious fact, well worthy of being generally known.

† Here there are some fine crofts, which are supposed to have given the name of *Tullibothy*, or *Tullibody*, (i. e. *the croft of the oath*), to the barony and village, which stands at the head of it. Many new houses have been built of late. There are the remains of an old church in Tullibody; the lands of which, with the inches and fishings, are narrated in a charter by DAVID I., who founded the abbey of Cambuskenneth, in the year 1147; and are made over to that abbacy, together with the church of Tullibody, and its chapel of Alloa. There are no records of the union of these two churches of Alloa and Tullibody. It seems probable, that it was about the beginning of the Reformation. It appears from JOHN KNOX, that, in the year 1559, when *Monsieur d'Oysel* commanded the French troops

Tullibody†, or what are called the *Carſe* and *Dryfield*, contain about 1,100 acres. The tenants pay *kains* and ceſs, and are obliged to carry their farm barley 6 miles, if required;

troops on the coaſt of Fife, they were alarmed with the arrival of the Engliſh fleet, and thought of nothing but a haſty retreat. It was in the month of January, and at the breaking up of a great ſtorm. William Kirkcaldy of Grange, attentive to the circumſtances in which the French were caught, took advantage of this ſituation, and marched with great expedition towards Stirling, and cut the bridge of Tullibody, which is over the Devon, to prevent their retreat. The French, finding no other means of eſcape, took the roof off the church, and laid it along the bridge where it was cut, and got ſafe to Stirling. It is generally believed, that this church remained in the ſame diſmantled ſtate till ſome years ago, that George Abercromby, Eſq. of Tullibody, covered it with a new roof, and erected within it a tomb for his family. There is ſtill a large burying ground round this church; and on the north ſide of it, where there had been formerly an entry, there is a ſtone coffin, with a niche for the head, and two for the arms, covered with a thick hollowed lid, like a tureen. The lid is a good deal broken; but a curious tradition is preſerved of the coffin, viz. "That a certain young lady of the neighbourhood had declared her af-" fection for the miniſter, who, either from his ſtation, or want of inclination, " made no returns; that the lady ſickened and died; but gave orders not to " bury her in the ground, but to put her body in the ſtone coffin, and place it " at the entry to the church." Thus was the poor vicar puniſhed; and the ſtone retains the name of the *Maiden Stone*.

† On the eaſt end of the village and crofts, there was a large rugged piece of ground, upwards of 140 acres, formerly let at 40l. Scotch, or 3l. 6s. 8d. Sterling. Between 60 and 70 years ago, it was incloſed, and planted with firs. When they were between 40 and 50 years of age, they were cut, and ſold at from 50l. to 60l. per acre; and the ground is now planted with oaks, which are in a very thriving condition.—Immediately on the eaſt of this wood, there is a riſing ground, in the upper barony of Alloa, called *Lorn's Hill*, probably from its being the ſpot where the Marquis of Lorn encamped, when in purſuit of the Marquis of Montroſe in the civil wars. Mr. Erſkine, about 14 years ago, built a farm houſe and good offices on it. It was formerly a dreary and uncultivated waſte, though the grounds were beautifully varied. Mr. Erſkine has humoured the lying of the ground, in forming his incloſures and clumps, and belts or ſtrips of planting; ſo that it is, at preſent a pleaſant ſpot, and will, in a few years, become a very agreeable *ferme ornée*.

but this seldom or never happens. They are subject also to a *darg* (or day's work), for every acre, or 10d. per annum. All multures are abolished.

Shaw Park.—On the N. E. extremity of the parish, stands SHAW PARK, the seat of LORD CATHCART. The house and offices take up a pretty large space. The grounds about it are delightfully varied, and set off the large plantations to great advantage. The late Lord bestowed a very large sum of money, on it and the house; which stands high, as the ground rises to it gradually from the Forth, which is about 2 miles distant. It commands an extensive prospect. From the drawing room windows, you have in view a fine reach of the river, with the towers of Alloa and Clackmannan, and the castle of Stirling; and even the hills of Tinto, in Clydesdale, and Ben Lomond, are distinctly seen.

Artificial Lake, Mills, &c.—Upon the eastern extremity of the parish, there is a large artificial piece of water, that looks like a lake. It was made about the beginning of the century, at a very considerable expence, for the use of the Alloa coal works. It is called *Gartmorn Dam.* The head, which was heightened and repaired a few years ago, is faced with rough hewn stone, and measures upwards of 320 yards. When the dam is full, it covers 128 Scotch acres of ground, nearly equal to 162 English statute acres. There is a sluice, which regulates the quantity of water to be conveyed into a lade, which first drives a mill, originally erected for grinding snuff, but now better employed in chipping and grinding wood and dye stuffs. A lint mill has, within these few years, been built, just before the water is conveyed into pipes for forcing it up to the engine, for raising the water out of the coal pits, and to another for drawing up the coals. Having performed these important

important purpoſes, for which the large reſervoir was originally made, the ſame water is again collected into a ſmaller dam, and from thence conveyed in a lade, to a fine ſet of mills in the town of Alloa, for grinding wheat, oats, and malt, and making pearl barley. There are two large wheels, of 19 feet diameter, in the centre of the houſe, which drive the whole machinery in both ends of the mills. Though all the mills are ſeldom employed at the ſame time, they can be wrought, on a great exertion, and are capable of grinding 400 bolls, about equal to 250 quarters, in a day *.—From theſe mills the water falls into a rivulet, that runs through the town, and drives a ſnuff and fulling mill; it then paſſes through Mr. Erſkine's pleaſure grounds, till it comes near the harbour; where it is again confined by a ſtrong dam of earth; and a large ſluice is built in it, of hewn ſtone, with a long trough of ſtone, which gives the water a prodigious velocity, for clearing the harbour of the mud: ſo that this little water, originally a ſmall branch of the Black Devon, (fed only by a few ſprings, and the ſurface water), is made to ſerve the moſt important purpoſes, by driving 7 mills, within this pariſh, beſides cleaning the harbour.

Agriculture.—About 20 years ago, the huſbandry of this pariſh was uncommonly bad, particularly in the barony of Alloa †. On the expiration of the *tacks* (leaſes), a great

* Theſe mills have been erected within theſe 10 years. The building is 93 feet long, over walls, 31 feet broad, and 32 high. The machinery alone coſt 500l. and is uncommonly well executed. From the time the foundation ſtone was laid, it was not quite 12 months before the mills began to work; and, notwithſtanding the great ſtreſs upon ſuch new walls, they were ſo well built, that there is not the ſmalleſt crack to be obſerved.

† The farms were ſmall, and the miſerable *ſteadings* (the old phraſe for a farm houſe and offices), denoted the poverty of the tenants, who relied ſolely on the driving

change took place. The sizes of the farms were enlarged; the tenants were no longer obliged to drive coals; all services and thirlages were abolished; inclosing went briskly on, and the fences are now remarkable, both for strength and beauty. A wall of 2½ feet high, built with stone and lime, is placed within a foot of the thorns, according to Sir *George Suttie's* method, thus mixing the security of the fence with the beauty and warmth of the hedge. There are many clumps and strips of planting interspersed through the farms; so that, in a few years, what was a most uncomfortable dreary waste, will become one of the best cultivated, and most beautiful spots in Scotland. The improvement of agriculture has, indeed, been most uncommonly rapid in this little corner, perhaps more so than in almost any other*. There are six threshing machines

2 in

driving of the coals for the payment of their pittance of rent; and contented themselves with scratching a small part of their grounds, the produce of which was scarcely sufficient to maintain themselves and their cattle. There were no inclosures, and the ground was over-run with *whins* (furze), broom, and all kinds of weeds, which but too plainly marked the poverty, sloth and ignorance of the possessors.

* Just as the spirit of improvement was beginning to shew itself, an intelligent East Lothian farmer took a farm in this parish, (consisting of upwards of 200 Scotch acres, or 254 English statute acres), who was remarkable for his good plowing, draining, and dressing of his grounds. His example quickened the diligence of his neighbours. A few years after he was settled here, he proposed to his landlord and brother farmers, to have trials of skill among the ploughmen; which scheme was eagerly adopted, and PLOWING MATCHES were first established in 1784. Last spring, (1791), 40 ploughs appeared, in an oblong field of 12 Scotch, or 15 English acres, all with two horses, and no drivers. The improved chain plough, on Small's construction, was the only one used; and it was computed that 1,600l. never placed the horses and ploughs on the field. The situation, being short ridges on a gentle declivity, set off the shew to the greatest advantage; so that, to any one fond of husbandry, the sight was most uncommonly delightful and pleasing. In short, the good effects of this institution have surpassed the warmest expectations of its promoters. From this period

in this pariſh. The laſt erected was by a farmer, who has only 60 Scotch, or 76 Engliſh acres of ground; and as improvements are daily making in them, and the price is reduced, it is probable that, in a very ſhort time, they will be held to be as indiſpenſibly neceſſary to a farm as the fanners *.

There is no particular rotation or courſe of crops univerſally followed here. The turnip huſbandry cannot be well adopted, as the low grounds are carſe, or rich clay, and moſt of the higher grounds have a ſubſoil, of a cold ſtiff till (or barren clay); ſo that the damage done, by poaching the ground, in taking off the crop, overbalances any advantage, that could poſſibly accrue from the cultivation of that uſeful root, ſo beneficial to farmers, in a more favourable ſoil †.—The following rotation is practiſed by ſome of the farmers, on carſe lands: The 1ſt year, fallow; the 2d, wheat; the 3d, beans; the 4th, barley and graſs ſeeds; the 5th, hay; the ſecond crop cut for ſoiling horſes and cattle in the houſe; then broke up in the 6th year for oats. Sometimes a crop of hay is taken in the 6th, ſoiling, &c. and then it is broke up in the 7th year for

riod may be dated the excellent plowing that appears in this ſmall county; and as many places, in diſtant parts of the country, have followed the example, it is to be hoped, that they have reaped equal benefit from it. The name, therefore, of HUGH REOCH, *of the Hiltown of Alloa*, deſerves to be gratefully remembered by every lover of agriculture.

* The threſhing machines, or mills, were firſt introduced into common uſe in this ſmall county, Mr. GEORGE MEIKLE having erected one that went by water, at Kilbagie, in the neighbouring pariſh of Clackmannan, in 1787. It was Mr. Meikle, who erected the machinery of the mills of Alloa.

† Thoſe who attempted turnips have been obliged to give them up, as well as the ſowing of wheat on a clover lay; for whether it got 1, 2, or 3 plowings, a light brown grub worm deſtroyed the root of the wheat. This misfortune might poſſibly be overcome, if a large quantity of hot lime were laid on the clover juſt before it is plowed up. This, however, is only *conjecture*, as no ſufficient trial has yet been made of it.

for oats. Some farmers sow clover alone; others mix a little rye-grass with it.

In the higher grounds, or, as they are sometimes improperly called, *Dryfield*, some farmers have, the 1st year fallow, or potatoes; the 2d, wheat; the 3d, beans and pease; the 4th, barley and grass seeds; the 5th hay, the second crop being cut for soiling, or sometimes pastured. Some take, in the 6th year, hay, and then it is pastured for 1, 2, 3 or 4 years, and afterwards broke up for oats.—When the ground is designed to be pastured, white clover, (and sometimes a little yellow), with a small quantity of narrow-leaved plantain, or rib grass is mixed with the red clover and rye grass. The produce varies considerably.

Produce on Carse Lands.

Per Scotch acre.	WHEAT.		*Per Eng. acre.*	
Bolls.*			*Quar.*	*Bush.*
14,	great crop,	*equal to*	5	5
12,	———	=	4	6½
10,	good crop,	=	4	0
9,	medium,	=	3	5
8½,	———	=	3	3
	BARLEY.			
10,	good crop,	*equal to*	6	2
9,	———	=	5	5
8,	medium,	=	5	0
7½,	———	=	4	5½

Per Scotch acre.	OATS.		*Per Eng. acre.*	
Bolls.			*Quar.*	*Bush.*
14,	great crop,	*equal to*	8	6
13,	———	=	8	1
10,	good crop,	=	6	2
9,	medium,	=	5	5
8½,	———	=	5	2
	BEANS.			
10,	good crop,	*equal to*	4	2¾
9,	———	=	3	7¼
5,	medium,	=	2	1¼

Sown Grass Hay†.

Stones, Tron Weight.			*Avoirdupoise Weight.*	
320,	great crop,	*equal to*	2 tons,	8 cwt.
240,	medium,	=	1 —	17 —

Produce

* *The bolls of wheat, per* SCOTCH *acre, are* LINLITHGOW *measure; and those of barley, oats, beans, &c.* STIRLINGSHIRE *measure. The proportion, above stated, of the produce per* ENGLISH *acre, is* STANDARD *measure.*

† *There is little or almost no hay made from* old grass, *or, what is called in Scotland,* natural grass.

PRODUCE on the INFERIOR SOILS, commonly called DRYFIELD.

Per Scotch acre. WHEAT. *Bolls.*	*Per Eng. acre.* *Quar.*	*Buſh.*
8, medium crop, =	3	1¾
BARLEY.		
6½, —— =	4	2
OATS.		
6¾, —— =	4	3

Per Scotch acre. PEASE. *Bolls.*	*Per Eng. acre.* *Quar.*	*Buſh.*
5, medium crop, =	2	1¼
HAY.		
Stones, tron weight.	*Avoird. weight.*	
200 medium crop =	1 ton 12 cwt.	

The QUANTITY of SEED.

Per Scotch acre. WHEAT. *Firlots.*	*Pecks.*		*Per Eng. acre.* *Buſh.*	*Pecks.*
4	0	*about equal to*	3	1
3	0	=	2	0½
BARLEY.				
3	0	*nearly equal to*	3	2½
2	3	=	3	1½

Per Scotch acre. OATS. *Firlots.*	*Pecks.*		*Per Eng. acre.* *Buſh.*	*Pecks.*
4	0	*nearly equal to*	4	3
3	2	=	4	1½

EXTENT of FARMS FORMERLY.

Scotch acres.		*Eng. acres.*
From 30 or 40,	*equal to*	38 or 51
To 60 or 70,	=	76 or 89

FORMER RENT of CARSE LANDS.

From 20s. to 24s. *equal to* from 15s. 8¾d. to 18s. 10½d.

FORMER RENT of INFERIOR LAND, or DRYFIELD.

From 3s. to 4s. or 5s. *equal to* from 2s. 4¼ to 3s. 1¾d. or 3s. 11¼d.

EXTENT of FARMS at PRESENT.

Scotch acres.		*Eng. acres.*
From 60 to 90,	*equal to*	from 76 to 114
—— 120 to 160,	=	—— 152 to 203
—— 200 to 360,	=	—— 254 to 457

PRESENT RENT of CARSE LANDS.

From 30s. to 40s. *equal to* from 23s. 7d. to 31s. 6d.

PRESENT RENT of INFERIOR LAND, or DRYFIELD.

From 10s. to 21s. *equal to* from 7s. 10½d to 16s. 6¼d.

Formerly

Formerly the rents of the pariſh were partly paid in *kind* *. Thoſe of the barony of Alloa are now wholly paid in *money*, except a few kain, which are paid over and above the ſtipulated rent. The tenants likewiſe pay half of the ceſs, or land tax. Although the rents throughout the pariſh are conſiderably raiſed, they are not thought to be over-rated; and the proſperity of the induſtrious and intelligent tenants plainly demonſtrate it †.

Implements

* When the tenants are poor, *paying their rent in kind* may be detrimental to them; for, in bad years, they find it difficult, if not impoſſible, to pay the ſtipulated quantity of grain; and as the price of it, in thoſe years, muſt of courſe be high, the tenant incurs a heavy debt, which many abundant crops will not enable him to get the better of. There are, however, various opinions on this point; many inſiſting, that, in long leaſes, it is the only equitable method; and, in ſome parts of the country, the payment in kind is indiſpenſible.

† On letting the new tacks (or leaſes), there was a ſmall farm, in the upper barony of Alloa, poſſeſſed by a man, named DONALDSON, of whoſe anceſtors the following traditional tale is told:—"That King James V., when out a hunting, being once benighted, and thrown out from his attendants, took ſhelter in this poor cottage, where he was hoſpitably received and entertained; the *goodman* (*i.e.* the farmer or landlord), calling to his wife to bring the hen that ſat neareſt the cock, (which is always reckoned the beſt one), and make a ſupper. The King, delighted with the frank, hoſpitable manner of his landlord, deſired, that the next time he was at Stirling, he would call at the caſtle, for *the Goodman of Ballinguiack* *. Donaldſon did as he was deſired, and was aſtoniſhed to find that the King had been his gueſt. He was on this dignifi d with the name of *King of the Muirs*; and this title has deſcended from father to ſon ever ſince." This tradition made the proprietor loth to turn out the tenant, eſpecially as he was deſirous of trying the experiment, whether theſe kind of tenants could be taught any thing of improved huſbandry; but, to his great mortification, he has found that the man, though only about 40 years of age, could not conquer his bad habits, or profit in the leaſt from the example of his diligent neighbours. There certainly muſt have been ſomething peculiarly depreſſing in the bondage

* BALLINGUIACK *is a narrow path, leading down the north weſt ſide of the rock at Stirling; and the King is ſaid to have taken this title, when in diſguiſe.*

Implements of Huſbandry.—There is now ſcarce one of the old awkward carts to be met with †. The farmers, at preſent, uſe large carts, with iron axles, drawn by two horſes; and, in hay or harveſt time, they have large open bodies to fit the ſame wheels, in which they carry great loads, frequently from 90 to 100 ſtone tron weight, (which is nearly from 18 cwt. to a ton avoirdupoiſe), of well made hay. However, what was aſſerted by the late Lord Kames, in his *Gentleman Farmer*, that "a well conſtructed one-horſe cart, is the moſt profitable carriage," ſeems now to be almoſt generally acknowledged; and the farmers here will probably adopt them very ſoon. Since the two-horſe ploughs have become general, the breed of horſes uſed by the farmers is conſiderably improved. Formerly, they had miſerable *garrans*, not worth more than 5l. or 6l. a piece; now, it is no uncommon ſight to ſee, in a farmer's plough, horſes which are worth from 36l. to 48l. the pair. The ploughs now uſed are chiefly of *Small's* conſtruction, with an iron head and caſt iron mould board. They coſt from 2l. to 2l. 10s. according to the weight of the iron.

Servants.—All the principal farmers here prefer *married*

bondage of ſervices, ſo univerſally impoſed on the old tenants of Scotland, as it ſeems to have rendered them almoſt incapable of becoming farmers. They ſeem to have been only fitted for ſervants; and, did not their pride prevent them, they would enjoy more comfort and happineſs as day labourers. This obſervation is at leaſt juſt with regard to this pariſh.

† Formerly, all the implements of huſbandry uſed here were ill conſtructed. Some years ago, it was a rarity to find a farmer with *ſpoke and nave wheels* to his cart. The carts in common uſe, conſiſted of a few boards ill put together, and of a ſize not larger than a good wheel barrow, placed upon a thick wooden axle, which was fixed to ſome low wheels, compoſed of 3 pieces of wood, joined together by two or three large wooden pins. The axle turned round with the tumbril wheels.

servants, as being more steady, orderly and tractable. The farmer provides him a house as near to his own as possible. It is much to be wished that this custom was more universal, as it is a most beneficial one to the country. It is, in fact, having cottagers on the very best establishment; for the ancient kind of cottars were but too often miserably oppressed by the tenants, on whose farms they were established; as they often exacted their services more rigorously, than the landlords did from the tenants. But as the ploughmen, in this district, receive their stated fee (or wages), kitchen money and meal, and pay only 10s. or 12s. for their cottages, (though indeed they generally have them *gratis*), besides their masters' horses drawing home their coals for them, no oppression can well take place. They have also the advantage of having their wives, and such of their children as can work in the fields, always at hand, who receive the common wages during hay-making and harvest; and are likewise often employed in picking stones off the land, and pulling or cutting down weeds. All this is of considerable benefit, both to masters and servants, and tends to rear up an useful, healthy generation of labourers.

Sale of Grain.—There is not the smallest resemblance of a public market for grain, within the parish or county; but the farmers find no difficulty in disposing of their crops by private bargain. The most substantial sell their grain, by the highest price of the Mid Lothian, or the Haddington fiars; that is, they give two or three months credit to the purchaser, at the price which is the average of the year. Smaller tenants sell their grain, for the current price at the time of their delivering it.

Hay.

Hay.—The collieries in the neighbourhood uſe a conſiderable quantity of hay: Their uſual price is 4d. per ſtone; and the hay is weighed, at the place where it is ſtacked to be uſed. Some of the farmers have found out their miſtake, in deferring the cutting of their hay till late in the ſeaſon, thinking, by ſo doing, to increaſe the quantity. It does ſo indeed to the eye; but in reality it is quite the reverſe: For hay, cut at the proper time, retains all the ſeed in it, and therefore it weighs conſiderably heavier, and has more nouriſhment in it; and the ſecond crop of graſs is earlier, and more plentiful. Beſides, it does leſs damage to the ground; ſo that the greedy farmer cheats himſelf in every reſpect. Few, or almoſt no farmers, conſume any quantity of hay themſelves; but this will probably come in courſe, as their knowledge improves; for though much has been done, and that rapidly too, there are yet many *arcana*, in this pleaſant art, that the farmers have ſtill to learn.

Sheep, Cattle and Manure.—There are few or no ſheep kept in the pariſh; nor is there much anxiety about the breed of cattle. There is little or almoſt no attention paid to the Dairy, although milk, in all its ſhapes, would find a good and ſteady ſale in the town of Alloa. Some, who have kept an exact account of the ſale of this article, are of opinion, that 6l. or 7l. might be eaſily made of a cow in the year. —The farmers are diligent in procuring manure from the town of Alloa; but the quantity would be conſiderably enlarged if the ſtreets were properly cleaned. Few farmers have limed to any extent, though the practice is creeping in. There is no limeſtone in the pariſh; but it is brought, both burnt and unburnt, from Lord Elgin's limeworks at Charleſtown, near Limekilns. The price of the ſlacked lime, delivered at the ſhore of Alloa, is about 7d. the wheat boll (Lin-

lithgow meaſure), which is rather more than four Wincheſter buſhels. The farmers generally bring up the raw lime ſtones, and burn them on their lands.

Incloſures.—The glebe of Alloa was one of the firſt incloſures of the pariſh, which was executed by the preſent incumbent in 1761. It is a light, but fertile ſoil. It had been ſo much neglected, that it then produced nothing but wild muſtard *, and innumerable weeds. After incloſing and laying it down in clover, the crop was ſold green for upwards of 8l. per acre. Some few people near the town followed the miniſter's example, and with good ſucceſs. Upwards of 7 guineas per acre were got for the clover crop of 4 acres of the glebe, in 1791.

Farms.—There are various opinions concerning the ſize of farms. In general, ſmall farms are reckoned moſt advantageous for the country; but it is ſeldom that any definition of a large or ſmall farm is given. They are commonly ſtated by the rents; whereas the number of acres, capable of being cultivated to advantage, ſhould be ſpecified †. People, in general,

* It is a curious fact, that, in ſome of Mr. ERSKINE's old rentals, among the different grains paid by the tenants, a ſmall quantity of *muſtard ſeed* is mentioned, though the cultivation of it here is now totally unknown.

† Some years ago, the late Mr. WEDDERBURN of St. Germains, in Eaſt Lothian, publiſhed an ingenious and ſenſible pamphlet, on this moſt important queſtion, "What *proportion* of the produce of arable land ought to be paid as *rent* "to the landlord?" A book deſerving the attention of every landholder and tenant in the kingdom, as the knowledge of it would greatly tend to their mutual benefit. Mr. Wedderburn ſtates, that a farm of 120 Scotch = 152 Engliſh acres of good land, is ſuch an one as will enable a man to bring up a uſeful family with credit and comfort. Double that quantity of ground, he calls a *middle ſized* farm; and three times the ſize, (360 Scotch = 457 Engliſh acres),

ral, are apt to form opinions from local circumſtances, and to apply them indiſcriminately to all ſituations. What appears a large farm, in ſome parts of the country, would be called a moderate one, nay perhaps a ſmall one, in others. It is an undoubted fact, that in this pariſh, until the farms were enlarged, huſbandry was at a very low ebb. Any one, who remembers the grounds in their former ſtate, and who ſees them now, cannot but acknowledge the different appearance that the country makes. Formerly, the miſerable tenants had wretched accommodation for their families, or produce of their fields or cattle; ragged children, with ſcanty education; and wretched complaints of poverty at every term. There are now ſubſtantial houſes, and convenient offices; a double, and often a triple produce; fields beautifully dreſſed and incloſed; a wealthy tenantry, and growing improvements*.

Coal.

acres), a *large* one; and thinks that few or none ſhould exceed it. Large farms, ſome people maintain, depopulate the country, and occaſion the riſe of all kinds of proviſion, &c. &c.; but there are others who hold a very different opinion; and, if we may be allowed to judge by analogy, with ſome appearance of reaſon. It is allowed, that no trade can be carried on to advantage without a ſufficient ſtock; that the diviſion of labour, and large dealings, enable people to ſell at a leſs profit, as the quantity ſufficiently recompences for the lowneſs of the price. Why ſhould the farming trade totally differ from all others? A certain ſize of a farm is abſolutely neceſſary to carry on the buſineſs with any proſpect of ſucceſs. In thoſe parts of Britain, where improvements have been carried on to the greateſt extent, were they brought about by large or ſmall farms? Examine them minutely, and ſee where the greateſt ſkill is diſplayed, or the largeſt produce brought to market.

* The leaſes are commonly given for 19 years; but where the ground was ſo wild, that it required a tedious and expenſive proceſs for the melioration of it, a nineteen years were given, with a ſmall riſe of rent at the commencement of the ſecond period. This is thought to be no more than equitable. Many gentlemen, who have tried improving ground themſelves, are thoroughly ſenſible, that the beſt part of a 19 years tack paſſes away before any adequate profit can be received for the expence laid out; and the farmer, who, from his knowledge and ſkill, adds to the ſtock of the community, is certainly entitled to ample retribution.

Coal.—The colliery of Alloa having been long eſtabliſhed*, there are ſtill many ancient cuſtoms in it. The colliers could not leave their work; of courſe ſome recompence † was neceſſary from the maſter. As the colliers in this work generally bind themſelves for a certain term of years, little alteration has taken place in this old cuſtom, notwithſtanding the new collier law, which paſſed in 1775 ‡. The colliers, in all countries, are generally an unruly ſet of labourers; and thoſe of this work were like their neighbours. About 30 years ago, they were perſuaded to give ſome little education to their children; and a few years after (when in ſearch of a new ſchoolmaſter for them), the proprietor of the colliery was lucky

* This pariſh has been long famous for the fine coal mines in it. How long they have been wrought is uncertain. There are accounts of the expence of working them in 1623. The price was then 6s. 8d. per chalder. The ſame meaſure has been ſold at a conſiderably lower price within theſe 35 years.

† The allowance given to the old collier, when paſt labour, was two pecks of meal per week, each weighing 8 lb. Dutch, or 8 lb. 11 oz. avoirdupoiſe; and he had his free houſe and garden, and likewiſe his firing, continued to him, the ſame as when working. Every widow had one peck of meal per week, a free houſe, &c. &c.; and if ſhe had any ſons grown up, who were able to carry on their father's work at the coal wall, they continued at it, for behoof of the family, as they did in their father's lifetime, until they were married.

‡ There were ſome parts of the old law which were barbarous, and which undoubtedly required to be aboliſhed; but it is queſtioned, whether the total repeal of it has made the collier happier, or if it has had the effect of inducing common labourers to commence colliers, or to train up their children to the buſineſs, as was ſaid to be the expectations of the promoters of it; nor is the price of working coal reduced. It is well known to all coalmaſters, that a collier can never earn ſo much in any work, as in that in which he was brought up. The preſent law has unhappily encouraged vagrancy amongſt the colliers; and, whenever they begin to wander, they generally bid farewel to induſtry. On going to a new place, they conſtantly, on ſome pretence or other, get money, And as the collier has broken all ties of relationſhip and habits, his head is continually on the rack to contrive ſome method to ſhift his place, in hopes of getting more money from a new maſter, without working for it.

lucky enough to find an old ſerjeant of the Royals, a diligent virtuous man, who not only brought the children, but even their parents, into ſome kind of order and diſcipline. This has greatly aſſiſted the preſent proprietor, who, during the reſidence of 21 years, has paid particular attention to the colliers, and has now the pleaſure of ſeeing a very great reformation among them. They were formerly remarkable for their ignorance and diſſoluteneſs of manners. They are now rather above the ordinary rate of the common people*. Each collier has a free houſe and garden, a quantity of meal proportioned to the number of the family, at the rate of 10½d. per peck, and their firing: Each family, upon an average, conſumes rather more than 7 cwt. per week. The colliers are paid by the piece; their earnings, therefore, depend on their own diligence and ſkill. The price of working varies according to the quality of the different ſeams of coal. A good collier can clear from 25l. to 35l. per annum; an extraordinary clever one may perhaps exceed this by 10l. or 12l. The depth of a bearing pit cannot well exceed 18 fathom, or 108 feet. There are traps, or ſtairs, down to theſe pits, with a hand rail to aſſiſt the women and children, who carry up the coals on their backs. The price given by the colliers is 4d. per chalder, of 30 cwt. A diligent bearer often brings up, from the bottom of the pit, 6 chalders, or 9 tons of coal in the week†. When the pits exceed the depth that bearers can carry

* They have a fund, like other friendly ſocieties, for burying their dead, paying their ſchoolmaſters, aſſiſting thoſe that are ill, and giving a ſmall trifle annually to the widows. There are 4 *bailies* intruſted with the management of this fund. The principal one is appointed by the proprietor of the work, for 7 years; the 3 others are annually choſen by him, from a liſt of 9 given into him by the colliers. They hold courts, to take cognizance of any diſpute or miſbehaviour in the colliery, and exact fines from the offenders, which are thrown into the general fund.

† The weight which a good bearer can carry, is very great. Some years ago,

carry up the coal, the collier's price is reduced, as the maſter is obliged to draw them up by gins, which is either wrought by horſes, or driven by water. The water gin, which has been in uſe here for theſe 70 or 80 years, is a moſt ingenious ſimple machine *. There are two collieries in the barony of Alloa, the oldeſt of them, called the *Alloa Pits*, is about 1¼ mile diſtant from the ſhore; the other is the *Collyland*, and is about double that diſtance. There are various ſeams in each colliery; ſome of 3, 4, 5 and 9 feet in thickneſs. They dip to the N. E. about 1 in 6 or 7.

The pits are free of all noxious damps, and have in general a good roof and pavement, although there are iron ſtones over ſome of the ſeams. The engine pit of the Alloa coal is about 48 fathom deep; and the coal is drained by a water engine, there having been a large reſervoir of water collected (as has been already mentioned), for that purpoſe, about the beginning of the century, as the ſteam engine was then but lately invented,

ago, the proprietor weighed a piece of coal, that a *lame* woman had brought out of a pit, 12 fathoms deep, and was aſtoniſhed to find it full 2 cwt. Another woman carried an uncommon large piece of coal, from the mouth of the pit to the overſeer's houſe, a diſtance of 400 yards; and, by the meaſure of this piece of coal, it muſt have weighed 3 cwt.

* It is a wheel of 18 feet diameter, and appears as if two wheels were joined together, with the buckets of the one reverſed from thoſe of the other. The axle is 39 inches diameter, to which the rope that draws up the tubs, or corve, is fixed. There is a ciſtern placed over the wheel, divided in the middle. Each diviſion has a valve, exactly over the centre of the different buckets, which valve is opened by a ſlider moved from the bottom; ſo that when the wheel turns round, it draws up the tub, or corve, of coals, weighing 6 cwt. and lets down the empty one, on ſhutting the valve of thoſe buckets, and opening the other, the corve that has juſt been emptied is let down, while a freſh corve full of coals is brought up.—The late Mr. Brown, the famous engineer and operative coalmaſter at Newcaſtle, was ſo ſtruck with it, when he was at Alloa in 1774, that he took a drawing of it; and, on his return to Newcaſtle, contrived one on the ſame principles, to anſwer for their deep pits.

invented, and not well known in Scotland. The engine pit of the Collyland is about 46 fathom deep; and the coal is drained by a ſteam engine, ſuppoſed to be one of the beſt of the old conſtruction. This was erected in 1764*.

* It has often been aſſerted, that there have been more eſtates loſt than made, (eſpecially in Scotland) by working coal mines. There probably has been ſome foundation for ſuch an aſſertion. The expences of winning and keeping up a colliery are conſiderable, and the commodity will not bear a great price; ſo that it is only a large quantity, that can produce a profit adequate to the expence. While the coals of the barony of Alloa were brought to the ſhore in ſmall carts by the tenants, the quantity was uncertain, and often not very conſiderable. In 1768, a waggon way was made to the Alloa pits, which proved to be ſo great an advantage, that it induced the proprietor to extend it to the Collyland, in 1771. The ſales were by theſe means increaſed, from 10,000 or 11,000 chalders, to 15,000 or 16,000. In 1785, the Alloa waggon way was worn out, and required to be renewed. This was done on a new plan; and it is now acknowledged to be the moſt complete in Britain. A deſcription of it may therefore be thought uſeful.

The ſleepers are very broad, and only 18 inches from centre to centre. A rail of foreign fir, 4 inches ſquare, is pinned down to them; and another rail, of the ſame dimenſions, is laid over it, and the whole well beat up in good clay; on the top of the upper rail is laid a bar of malleable iron, of $1\frac{3}{4}$ inches breadth, and nearly ſix-8ths thick. The waggons have caſt iron wheels, $27\frac{1}{2}$ inches diameter, and are ſuppoſed to weigh altogether about a ton. A waggon carries 30 cwt. of coals, and 3 waggons are linked together by chains; ſo that 1 horſe draws $4\frac{1}{2}$ tons of coal at once; and the declivity of the way is ſo gentle, that the ſame horſe draws with eaſe the 3 empty waggons back to the coal-hill. The advantage of putting the weight into 3 waggons, in place of 1, is very conſiderable: They are eaſier to fill and empty; and the throwing the weight over a greater ſurface, does leſs damage to the waggon way, and is likewiſe eaſier for the horſe as it is well known, that almoſt the only ſtreſs a horſe has, on a good waggon way, is in the firſt ſtarting of the waggon; therefore, if the whole $4\frac{1}{2}$ tons were put into one waggon, the difficulty would be great; but as the wag-

gons

The large coal ſent to ſea is ſold at the ſhore, from 8s. 6d. to 9s. per chalder, of 30 cwt. The ſmaller coals, which are called *chaws*, are ſold on the coal-hill, for 13d. per cart † of 6 cwt.—The coal of the barony of Alloa is thought to be the fartheſt weſt of any coal north of the Forth.—The colliers prefer working in the night time; ſome go into the pits between 8 and 9, and others again later. Thoſe who are anxious, on any particular occaſion, to draw a large ſum on the Saturday, continue a very long time at their work: The uſual time is from 10 to 12 hours. The men are, in general, rather of a low ſtature, though there are ſome of them 6 feet. Many of the young women are pretty. On Sundays and holidays, both men and women are clean and neatly dreſſed. They eat conſiderably

gons, when ſtanding ſtill, are cloſe to one another, and the chains that link them together are 2 feet long, the horſe has only 30 cwt. of coals to put in motion; for, when he ſtarts the firſt waggon, the impetus of it, if it does not actually move, at leaſt greatly aſſiſts in moving the ſecond and third. The firſt expence of making this kind of waggon way, is undoubtedly great, being at leaſt 10s. per running yard; yet the proprietor has been long ago reimburſed, and is a conſiderable gainer; for although this road has been made theſe 6 years, it has required no repair worth mentioning, and it is now near as good as when firſt laid.

† About 35 years ago, this kind of coal was ſold for 6d. The price has riſen gradually as the demand has increaſed. The conſumption of coal in Scotland is conſiderably greater than formerly; which is probably owing, in ſome meaſure, to the improvements of agriculture, &c. the country people having learnt to eſtimate the value of their time; and, by calculating how much is conſumed in making peats, they find, that coals, though brought from a great diſtance, is a cheaper, as well as a pleaſanter fuel.—The effect that any *extraordinary diſtreſs* in the country has, on the ſale of coal, is very evident. On the ſhock that credit received, by the great failures in 1772, the ſale of coals, at this port, diminiſhed one third; and it was 4 years before the uſual demand took place: And the conſequences of the miſerable crop in 1782, were felt, pretty nearly in the ſame manner, in 1783.

conſiderably more meat than other labourers, and are, on the whole, a happy race of people. They are generally healthy; few of them, however, work at the coal wall after 63 years of age; but they are able to do ſome eaſy work below ground, for many years after that time of life. The women live longer than the men.

The following tables may be depended on as particularly exact. The account of the births and burials are taken from the books of the collier's fund.

TABLE I.

Shewing the Number of MALES *and* FEMALES *in the* COLLIERY *of* ALLOA, *at all Ages, in* 1780.

Years of age.	Males.	Females.	Years of age.	Males.	Females.	Years of age.	Males.	Females.	Years of age.	Males.	Females.
At 1	5	6	At 22	5	2	At 43	1	1	At 64	1	2
2	14	16	23	2	6	44	1	2	65	0	1
3	8	4	24	6	6	45	1	3	66	1	0
4	9	7	25	2	1	46	2	1	67	1	1
5	2	4	26	5	9	47	3	4	68	0	1
6	9	10	27	0	3	48	4	9	69	0	0
7	6	16	28	4	5	49	2	2	70	3	1
8	2	6	29	2	1	50	1	2	71	1	0
9	7	9	30	1	4	51	0	1	72	0	0
10	6	5	31	2	2	52	2	2	73	1	0
11	6	6	32	0	0	53	1	2	74	0	2
12	7	8	33	3	1	54	0	0	75	0	1
13	6	4	34	3	2	55	2	1	76	0	0
14	5	7	35	1	4	56	0	2	77	0	1
15	6	5	36	5	5	57	1	2	78	2	1
16	5	6	37	3	4	58	3	1	79	0	0
17	5	4	38	2	3	59	2	1	80	1	1
18	7	3	36	2	1	60	2	1	84	0	1
19	6	6	40	3	4	61	0	2			
20	5	3	41	2	1	62	1	1		227	248
21	1	1	42	1	1	63	2	4			

TABLE II.

Shewing the Number of MALES *and* FEMALES *in the* COLLIERY *of* ALLOA, *at all Ages, in* 1791.

Years of age.	Males.	Females.	Years of age.	Males.	Females.	Years of age.	Males.	Females.	Years of age.	Males.	Females.
Under 1	3	7	At 21	7	8	At 42	2	1	At 63	0	2
At 1	5	15	22	8	4	43	1	3	64	1	2
2	4	6	23	5	6	44	4	1	65	2	3
3	8	11	24	3	7	45	0	1	66	0	0
4	6	9	25	4	6	46	2	3	67	1	0
5	4	6	26	5	4	47	0	3	68	1	0
6	5	3	27	2	2	48	3	3	69	1	2
7	7	5	28	4	6	49	2	1	70	0	3
8	6	8	29	0	4	50	1	3	71	1	0
9	2	4	30	6	3	51	0	1	72	0	0
10	7	10	31	5	2	52	1	4	73	0	1
11	6	5	32	4	4	53	1	1	74	0	0
12	6	3	33	0	2	54	2	2	75	0	1
13	8	6	34	3	5	55	2	3	76	0	2
14	5	6	35	0	2	56	0	0	77	1	1
15	7	4	36	6	2	57	3	5	78	0	1
16	7	6	37	5	2	58	2	2	79	0	0
17	5	5	38	3	3	59	4	3	80	0	1
18	8	9	39	0	3	60	2	4	92	0	1
19	3	4	40	5	7	61	1	2		231	289
20	3	6	41	0	3	62	0	1			

TABLE III.

SUMMARY VIEW of the two preceding TABLES.

Total number in 1780.	*Ma.*	*Fem.*	*Tot.*	Total number in 1791.	*Ma.*	*Fem.*	*Tot.*
Under 7 years of age	57	53	110	Under 7 years of age,	42	62	104
From 7 to 14 ——	39	45	84	From 7 to 14 ——	40	42	82
—— 14 to 20 ——	34	27	61	—— 14 to 20 ——	33	34	67
—— 20 to 27 ——	21	28	49	—— 20 to 27 ——	34	37	71
—— 27 to 34 ——	15	15	30	—— 27 to 34 ——	22	26	48
—— 34 to 41 ——	18	22	40	—— 34 to 41 ——	19	22	41
—— 41 to 48 ——	13	21	34	—— 41 to 48 ——	12	15	27
—— 48 to 55 ——	8	10	18	—— 48 to 55 ——	9	15	24
—— 55 to 62 ——	9	10	19	—— 55 to 62 ——	12	15	27
—— 62 to 69 ——	5	9	14	—— 62 to 69 ——	6	10	16
—— 69 to 76 ——	5	4	9	—— 69 to 76 ——	1	7	8
—— 76 to 80 ——	3	3	6	—— 76 to 80 ——	1	3	4
Aged, 84 ——	0	1	1	Aged, 92 ——	0	1	1
	227	248	475		231	289	520

TABLE

TABLE IV.

Shewing the Numbers of BIRTHS *and* BURIALS, *in the* COLLIERY *of* ALLOA, *during the following Years*.*

Years.	BIRTHS.	BURIALS.			
		Children.	Youths.	Aged.	Total.
1782	18	7	1	2	10
1783	16	6	0	5	11
1784	15	8	3	4	15
1785	13	5	1	3	9
1786	13	4	0	6	10
1787	22	25	4	9	38
1788	22	7	2	5	14
1789	26	11	1	3	15
1790	26	12	0	2	14
1791	14	9	1	3	13
Totals,	185	94	13	42	149
Avera.	18 5-10ths	9 4-10ths	1 3-10ths	4 2-10ths	14 9-10ths

Some of the colliers have left the work between the years 1780 and 1791, and perhaps a few have come into it; but the variations are certainly not greater, than what happens in moſt pariſhes, which have the ſame number of ſouls. The increaſe, by the above tables, is 3 and 6-10ths per annum;

Which, in 11 years, amounts to 39.6-10ths. } Number by numeration 514.6-10ths
Number in 1780, - - 475 } ——— in 1791, - 520
Difference, - 5.4-10ths.

Manufactures.—Formerly this pariſh was famous for manufacturing tobacco; but it is long ſince it loſt its reputation for that article; although there is ſtill a little ſnuff made here. For a long time the camblet branch took the lead, and was conſidered as the ſtaple manufacture. It is in the neighbourhood of the wool of the Ochils; and the young people were

* *N. B. Within this period there was one ſtill birth, which is not taken notice of, either in the births or burials.*

were bred to these woollen employments. An early education in this branch gave them a great superiority; and this pre-eminence opened up a variety of markets, both at home and abroad. Great quantities were sent to England; which, after being dressed up, and finished off with a peculiar neatness, were returned and sold in our markets, at a very advanced price. The late Lord CATHCART, when presiding at the Board of Police, was attentive to this circumstance, and proposed to bring people from England, who should instruct them in dressing their camblets. At that time the demand was great, and the patriotic proposal was not accepted. Till within these few years 100 looms have been employed in this branch. Whether the demand for camblets has diminished, or that the young people have figured to themselves an easier, or more speedy way of getting wealth, by the sea, or the occupations connected with the distillery, or to whatever cause it is owing, there is undoubtedly a great decrease in this manufacture. At present, there are not above 40 camblet looms, and perhaps as many employed in serges, and inferior sorts of woollen stuffs. The manufacture of narrow and broad cloths has been lately introduced, and promises well. Scotch, English, and Spanish wool have all been made use of in this trade; and some very beautiful cloth has been produced. The coarsest kinds are mostly sold in the Fife markets; the finest in the neighbourhood to persons of the first rank. About 19 or 20 hands are employed in this cloth manufacture, each of whom make good wages*. There are 30 or 40 people employed in the

* Though it is supposed, that there can be no great difference in the rate of wages, between this and other places, yet it may answer some purposes to those who pay attention to this subject, to state them exactly. A broad cloth weaver can make from 20d. to 2s. per day; a man spinning by the jenny, 4 spinel a day, 1s. 6d.; a woman, scribling, per day, 10d.; a man, scribling upon dish cards, per day, 2s.; ditto, hand cards, per day, 1s. 4d.; women, spinning fine yarn by the hand, 8d.; a man, dressing cloth, per day, 1s. 6d.; a man, dying wool, per day, 2s.

the woollen branches, in the village of Tullibody. The inhabitants of all the villages, at the foot of the Ochils, are diſpoſed to the like employments; and, from their long and early habits, theſe ſtations ſeem proper for ſeconding the efforts of the woollen manufacturers.

The *linen* manufactures, of every denomination, carried on here, are moſtly for home conſumption, and generally according to the taſte and fancy of private families.—Of late, *muſlin* looms, with fly ſhuttles, have been ſet up, and do a great deal of buſineſs. The webs are ſent, ready warped, from Glaſgow, and the cloth is returned. Eight or 10 looms are already employed, and there is a demand for 20 more; as there ſeems to be here, as well as in other places, a growing ſpirit for theſe cotton branches.

A *Foundery*, upon a ſmall ſcale, has been for ſome time eſtabliſhed here. The metal was generally brought from Carron, and employment given in caſting waggon wheels, pots of different ſizes, and other ſmall articles in that way. —There are a few *nailers* here, and manufacturers of other branches of *iron* work, * for the ſhipping.—There is a very ingenious man, who makes large portable *ſtill-yards* for weighing cattle, carts, &c. He has been employed at Dundee and Greenock, for erecting public ones, which have given great ſatisfaction; and the demand for them ſeems to be increaſing. —There are a few *rope-makers* here. There are likewiſe ſome good wrights † (carpenters), in all branches.—There is a *ſhip-builder*,

* The late EARL of MARR was very aſſiduous in procuring the beſt tradeſmen to ſettle at Alloa. There was a remarkable good ſmith then fixed here. *Still-yards* and *beams* were particularly well executed. Ever ſince his time, there has been a ſucceſſion of good hands in that branch.

† There is a native, a cabinet-maker, who returned here, (where he has a ſmall property), about 24 years ago, after having been long in London. He was

builder, who bears a very good character, and has a very ingenious young man, a ſon, breeding under him.

Markets, Prices of Proviſions, &c.—There are 4 ſtated annual fairs in Alloa, viz. on the ſecond Wedneſdays of February, May, Auguſt and November; and 2 weekly markets, on Wedneſday and Saturday. The manner of living, of all ranks of people in Scotland, is conſiderably changed within theſe 30 years. In 1763, there were but 4 bakers in Alloa, 2 of whom had but little employment: There are now 14. Some of them carry on a pretty extenſive trade. The mode of living, probably, has more affected the wages of labourers, &c. than the price of grain, though that muſt have ſome influence on them. In order to judge of this, the following prices of the fiars are given. It is much to be regretted, that there is not ſome ſuch method fallen on, to record the prices of meat, &c. at 4 different times of the year:

was reckoned one of the beſt journeymen there. And it deſerves to be mentioned, that in one of the firſt ſhops in London, where 80 hands were employed, 3 of the very beſt were born in this pariſh. And a young man, who ſerved his apprenticeſhip with the above mentioned cabinet-maker here, is now foreman in a very principal cabinet warehouſe in London.

MID-LOTHIAN FIARS.

Years.	WHEAT. Per Boll. s.	d. 12ths	Per Quarter. l.	s.	d. 12ths	BARLEY. Per Boll. s.	d. 12ths	Per Quarter. l.	s.	d. 12ths	OATS. Per Boll. s.	d. 12ths	Per Quarter s.	d. 12ths	MEAL. Per Boll. s.	d. 12ths
1706	14	3 3	1	7	5	12	5 8	0	16	5	9	5	12	5 2	10	3 1
1715	15	5 3	1	9	8	12	10 4	0	17	0	9	9 6	12	11 7	11	0 2
1740	13	7 7	1	6	2 6	11	3 8	0	14	11	9	2 4	12	1 9	10	4 10
1754	13	8 7	1	6	4 6	11	2 8	0	14	10	9	2	12	1 4	10	7 3
1760	14	5	1	7	8 9	11	9 6	0	15	6 9	9	8 4	12	9 7	11	1 6
1773	17	4 6	1	13	5	13	4 7	0	17	7 11	11	7 6	15	4 8	13	1 6
1790	20	3 2	1	19	3 3	15	2 6	1	0	1	12	5 3	16	6	14	3 8

CLACKMANNANSHIRE FIARS*.

Years.	WHEAT. Per Boll. s.	d. 12ths	Per Quarter. l.	s.	d. 12ths	BARLEY. Per Boll. s.	d. 12ths	Per Quarter. l.	s.	d. 12ths	OATS. Per Boll. s.	d. 12ths	Per Quarter. s.	d. 12ths	MEAL. Per Boll. s.	d. 12ths
1740	13	2 11	1	3	11 6	9	8 3	0	12	1 6	8	2 4	10	3	9	2 11
1754	12	11 10	1	3	4	10	0 4	0	12	6 4	8	1 11	10	2	9	7 10
1760	13	9 2	1	4	10 5	10	10 10	0	13	7 9	8	7 4	10	9 3	10	3 2
1773	16	7 9	1	10	0 6	13	10	0	17	3 7	10	9 9	13	6	12	7 8
1790	19	1 8	1	14	6 9	16	4 1	1	0	5 3	12	8 10	15	11	14	2 3

* The fiars of Clackmannanshire are only recorded since 1712. The prices set down oppoſite to the years, are the average prices of the 25 preceding them.

Wages.—The former and present rate of wages is stated in the annexed tables *; besides which, the out-door ploughmen have some small emoluments, such as liberty to plant 2 or 3 pecks of potatoes, &c. &c. Servants and tradesmen are allowed no meat or beer; sometimes in harvest they get a dram. Few or no servants are hired by the month, or harvest time, although

* About the time of the Union, the common day's wages of a labourer were from 5d. to 6d. per day. When livery meal was given, 2 pecks, or 16 lb. Dutch weight, (about equal to 17 lb. 4½ avoirdupoise), per week, seem to have been always the fixed quantity. Formerly, most part of the ploughmen lived in the farmer's houses, and had their fees, (or wages), and bounties; which were,

4 ells of grey cloth at 1s. per ell - - -	L.	0	4 0
6 ditto of harn, or coarse linen, for shirts, at 6d. per ell, -		0	3 0
2 ditto of plaiding, or coarse flannel, at 10d. per ell, -		0	1 8
2 pair of shoes, or in money, - - - - - -		0	5 0
Total value of bounties, - - - - - -	L.	0	13 8
Fee, or wages, per annum, - - - - - -		2	0 0
Total wages, - - -	L.	2	13 8

Those ploughmen, who did not live in the farmer's house, had, besides their livery meal, 6½ bolls per annum, and 4d. per week, under the name of kitchen money. In order to know the wages of the out-door ploughman, we must put a value on the meal. This is done in the following table, by taking the price of meal, on an average of 25 years preceding the year specified.

	H. Ploughmen. Per annum.			Out-d. Ploughmen. Per annum.				Day Labourers. Per day.			Maid Servants. Half yearly.		
Years.	l.	s.	d.	l.	s.	d.	12ths	s.	d.	d.	l.	s.	d.
1754	2	13	8	6	0	0	11	0	7		0	0	0
1760	3	0	0	7	4	8	7	0	7	or 8	0	0	0
1773	4	10	0	9	9	5	10	0	9	or 10	1	0	0
1790	6	10	0	11	19	6	7	1		or 10	1	10	0

	WOMEN. In the field. Per day.		WOMEN. In harvest Per day		MEN, In harvest. Per day.		MASONS. Per day.		WRIGHTS, or joiners. Per day.		CARPENTERS. new work. Per day.		CARPENTERS. old work. Per day.	
Year	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
1791	0	6	0	10	1	0	1	8	1	8	1	8	2	

although many farmers engage women to ſhear (reap) for them in harveſt; but then they are engaged by the day, or half day, according as they are employed. Almoſt any number can be got, at a ſhort notice, from the town of Alloa; and it is no uncommon ſight to ſee 60, 80, or 100 reapers in one field. Of late, there have been undertakers for cutting down a farmer's crop, at 5s., 5s. 6d., or 6s. per acre, according to the apparent eaſe or difficulty of the work.

Poor.—The number of poor, who were formerly obliged to accept of conſtant aſſiſtance, was but few, while thoſe who ſtood in need of occaſional aid were numerous; and yet the kirk-ſeſſion*, beſides paying for the education of many young people, have been able to lay up money againſt any uncommon calamity.

* The Legiſlature, in 1597, placed the care of the poor in the KIRK-SESSION, which is an eccleſiaſtical court. They have eſteemed this a moſt important truſt; and have accordingly regarded it as their duty, to be perfectly well acquainted with the ſituation and diſpoſition, of thoſe who apply for relief; and aſſiſted them in proportion, from the collections made at the church doors, and other ſmall dues payable to the ſeſſion; which were, for the moſt part, found ſufficient for the purpoſe. Under ſuch attentive and careful management, the act, 1672, was, for the moſt part, found unneceſſary; and therefore, it is believed, was never put in practice in any pariſh, until the hard winter of 1740. By this act, "the heritors, miniſters and elders of every pariſh, were required to make "a liſt of all the poor within the pariſh, to liquidate a yearly ſum for their "maintenance; the one half to be paid by the heritors, the other half by the "other houſeholders." In 1740, ſome counties and particular pariſhes, in order to oblige abſent heritors, to contribute their ſhare towards aſſiſting the poor in their diſtreſs, began to enforce it; and moſt of them have ever ſince followed that method, although it has brought on ſome few diſputes about ſettlements, and other diſagreeable circumſtances attendant on all rates. But the greater part of the country moſt happily continued to intruſt the management of the poor to the kirk-ſeſſion; and it may therefore be fairly preſumed, that moſt of the kirk-ſeſſions in Scotland have been as attentive to this important part of their duty, as the ſeſſion of this pariſh; who have executed their truſt, for this century paſt, moſt faithfully and judiciouſly.

An average Account of the Parish Funds of Alloa, and of the Number of Poor assisted by them, taken every 15 Years, from 1700 to 1790, with the average Price of Meal.

	Amount of the Collections				THE ORDINARY POOR.										PRICE of MEAL.			
					Number of names on the roll.	Total of the Receipts.			Assistance per Head.			Total assistance given.			Number of occasional Poor.	Total number of Poor.	Total of Disbursements.			Per Edinb. Fiars.			Per Clackm. Fiars.	
	l.	*s.*	*d.*	12ths		*l.*	*s.*	*d.* 12ths	*l.*	*s.*	*d.* 12ths	*l.*	*s.*	*d.* 12ths			*l.*	*s.*	*d.* 12ths	*s.*	*d.* 12ths	*s.*	*d.* 12ths
From 1691,	18	11	9	10	10	45	8	7 10	0	13	4 9	6	14	0 8	57	67	39	12	11 6	38	11	4	0	0
1701 to 1715,	38	8	3	1	16	47	8	7 10	0	13	8 2	10	18	10 8	60	76	46	7	3 4	29	10	1 1	0	0
1716 to 1730,	49	19	4	2	24	102	0	8 5	0	15	11 4	19	2	8 6	77	101	86	10	7 3	34	10	4 1	9	1 5
1731 to 1745,	44	18	7	2	28	95	10	0 2	0	17	2 6	24	2	0 1	79	107	89	12	8 2	29	9	8	9	0 10
1746 to 1760,	42	7	10	3	19	99	8	9 6	0	16	10 4	16	0	4 4	76	95	100	18	10	9	11	6	10	10
1761 to 1775,	56	14	8	11	20	123	8	8	0	13	10 3	13	3	2 4	93	113	125	16	7	17	14	1 10	13	11
1776 to 1790,	59	3	8	5	111				1	14	6 6	180	2	2 9	36	147	210	13	7 6	13	9	7	13	7 10

The

The account of the poor, from which this abſtract is taken, affords many particulars worthy of obſervation; but it is too voluminous for this work. In general, the number of poor ſeems to have increaſed, when the price of meal was high; but although the price was ſoon reduced, it was 2 or 3 years before the numbers returned to the common average; and in ſome years the poor were numerous, although the price of meal was moderate.

The collections at the church doors prove the propriety of that method of gathering alms. The diminution that began to take place in them about 1734, was probably occaſioned by the ſeceſſion from the church, as the collection at the meeting-houſe was never taken, (although the law would have allowed this to be done), the funds muſt conſequently have ſuffered. The aſſiſtance given to the paupers, on the ordinary liſt, in 1691, was 16d. per month. This, at firſt view, will appear very inadequate; and yet there is no tradition of the poor having been neglected, or of their ſuffering greater diſtreſs than at preſent. About the year 1720, a greater allowance was given in extraordinary caſes; but the 16d. per month ſtill continued the uſual aſſiſtance till 1776, when applications for aſſiſtance from the kirk-ſeſſion became more frequent and preſſing; ſo that the miniſter was induced to apply to the heritors, and the reſt of the pariſhioners, for ſome enlargement of the funds, and an aid to prevent ſtrolling beggars from preying on the pariſh; when an annual contribution was cheerfully agreed to, and liberally ſubſcribed for. Moſt of the occaſional poor, at that time, were thought proper objects to be put on the ordinary liſt. Such of the poor as are put on the ordinary liſt, are obliged to ſubſcribe a writing, making over to the heritors, and kirk-ſeſſion, all their little clothes and moveables, which, at their death, are ſold for the increaſe of the fund. This is intended to cut off all improper appli-

cations for charity from thoſe who can ſupport themſelves. Thoſe, whoſe diſtreſs or misfortunes require the public aid, are put on the occaſional (or temporary) liſt; and remain longer or ſhorter according to their diſtreſs.

This fund is managed by a committee of the ſubſcribers, choſen every half year, by the heritors and kirk-ſeſſion: At the ſame time, every contributer is welcome to attend the monthly meetings, and to give information or advice. The regular care and attention, that has been paid by the committee, will be ſeen by the ſubjoined table.

A particular

A particular Account of the Number of the ordinary and occasional Poor in the Parish of Alloa, and the Assistance given to them per Annum, taken on an Average of 15 Years, from 1776 to 1790.*

		Total assistance given.				Aver. assist. per Head.				Average of Males.								Average of Females.								Aver. of Child.								Grand Total		Aver. of the assist. per Head.		
										Married		Batchelors		Widowers		Total		Married		Spinsters		Widows		Total		Boys		Girls.		Total								
		l.	*s.*	*d.*	12ths	*l.*	*s.*	*d.*	12ths		15ths		15ths		15ths		15ths		15ths		15ths		15ths		15ths		15ths		15ths		15ths								
Ordinary Poor,	111	180	2	2	9	1	14	6	8	14	9	8	11	4	12	28	2	14	9	35	9	36	13	87	1	15	7	15	14	31	6	146	14	1	4	6
Occasional ditto,	36	30	11	5						14	14	1	10	5	13	22	7	14	14	9	14	20	5	45	3	5	1	5	6	10	7	77	7			
	147	210	13	7	9					29	8	10	6	10	10	50	9	29	8	45	8	57	3	132	4	20	8	21	5	41	13	224	6			

* The price of meal, taken on the average of these 15 years, is 13s. 7d. 10-12ths, per the Clackmannan fiars, and 13s. 9d. 7-12ths, according to the Edinburgh fiars.

of Alloa.

The

[2] 630

The uſual allowance given to a pauper, on the ordinary liſt, is 3s. per month. This allowance, though it may appear ſcanty to ſuch as have never thought on the ſubject, is rather ample, when compared with that given in 1691. Meal was then almoſt the only food of the poor; and the price of it, taken on an average of 25 years, was, by the Mid-Lothian ſiars, 11s. per boll, or $8\frac{3}{12}$d. per peck. The wages of a labourer was then from 5d. to 6d. per day. They now get from 10d. to 1s.; and in all probability they get more conſtant employment; and the price of meal, by the ſame ſiars and average, is 14s. $3\frac{8}{12}$d. per boll, or $10\frac{9}{12}$d. per peck. Nor do the poor any longer depend ſolely on meal for their food, as that moſt agreeable and nouriſhing root, the potatoe, is every where raiſed in great quantities, and is happily become the "ſuſtenance of the poor, and luxury of the rich*." The medium price of it here is from 4d. to $4\frac{6}{12}$d. per peck, weighing full 20 lb. Dutch weight, about equal to $21\frac{3}{4}$ lb. avoirdupois. It is to be lamented, however, that this bleſſing does not leſſen the number of applications for aid from the pariſh: On the contrary, they are becoming more frequent; and receiving pariſh aſſiſtance is no longer looked on, by the poor themſelves, or even their relations, with that horror it was formerly. When the receiving pariſh ſupply comes to be regarded as a common occurrence, it is obvious, that the poor's rates† will become general in Scotland, unleſs the greateſt attention is paid by all ranks of people to prevent it. The management of the poor is a moſt difficult buſineſs. It is certainly the wiſh of every benevolent perſon, to relieve their wants as far as poſſible; but to eſtabliſh rates, is creating a burden on the induſtrious, without giving relief to the pauper.

Climate,

* Vide Somerville's Fable of the Two Springs.

† The laws of aſſeſſment for the maintenance of the poor, not having been univerſally put in practice in Scotland, have made many people

Climate, Diſeaſes and Longevity.—Although the town of Alloa lies low, it is allowed to be pretty healthy. The epidemical diſeaſes of fevers, ſmall pox, &c. carry off fewer than in the neighbouring pariſhes. Agues are now ſcarcely ever heard of. Its ſituation by the ſide of a great river, where the regular flowing of the tide is attended with a ſtrong current, ſerves to purge away the damps, and to give a freſhneſs and purity to the air. Though it is not remarkable for the longevity

people imagine that there are no laws extant concerning that part of the police. The fact is, that they are very ſimilar to thoſe of England (*vide* Dr. M'FARLAN's *Inquiries concerning the Poor*), and differ only in a few points, ſuch as an inattentive reader may conclude are of no great conſequence; and yet thoſe little differences have probably prevented the burden, from becoming as heavy, in thoſe parts of Scotland, where the poor's laws are enforced, as they are in England.

The *kirk-ſeſſions*, being a corporate body, are joined with the heritors, as the adminiſtrators of the poor's funds. The *miniſter* and *treaſurer* generally know the circumſtances, and character, of every individual that applies to them; and, by conſtant attention, become perfect maſters of the buſineſs, and pride themſelves on executing their truſt moſt faithfully. Whereas in England, the church wardens, and overſeers of the poor, to whom this truſt is committed, are choſen annually; ſo that, by the time they have learned the buſineſs, they are removed; and whatever good regulations they may have made, their ſucceſſors, through ignorance, or deſign, either alter or neglect them. Nor can it be ſuppoſed, that any annual office, which, though very troubleſome and diſagreeable, is not looked on in the moſt favourable light, will be attended to with diligence by any individual, if he ſees little chance of his beſt intentions being of any ſervice; but, it is more than probable, he will endeavour to paſs it over, with as little trouble or vexation as poſſible. And the power of aſſeſſment lies entirely in the church wardens and overſeers*; as it is no longer conſidered, that the concurrence of the inhabitants, for making a rate, is at all neceſſary. Though the law requires that the overſeers, &c. ſhould have the conſent of two juſtices, it has become a mere matter of form; † for, when juſtices have refuſed their conſent, the Court of King's Bench has compelled them to allow the rate. But in Scotland, the heritors muſt meet with the kirk-ſeſſion, before any aſſeſſment can be laid on the pariſh; and this obliges them (eſpecially as they muſt pay one half of the aſſeſſment), to be attentive to the management of the poor's funds.

* *Vide Burn's Juſtice, Edit. 15th, Vol. IV. page 574.* † *Ditto, page 535.*

gevity of its inhabitants, yet there are not wanting many inſtances of long life. Some years ago, a man, in the labouring line of life, died at the age of 101. Within theſe few weeks, an old ſoldier died, who, from his age in the muſter roll 1746, muſt have been 103. A woman of the colliery died, about 5 or 6 weeks after the preceding liſt was taken, aged 92. There are many old people on the poor's roll; in particular one woman paſt 90. There are 5 men and 5 women now living, who are paſt 80; and there are 13 men, and 20 women paſt 70 *.

Population.—The following tables of births are extracted from the regiſter of baptiſms; and although this may not be perfectly

* There is an inſtance of longevity, which is too remarkable to be paſſed over unnoticed, viz. GEORGE ABERCROMBY, Eſq. formerly of TULLIBODY, now of BRUCEFIELD, who is a native of this pariſh, and was born in the year 1705. Notwithſtanding his great age, he is ſtill in good health, and enjoys life and the company of his friends in a ſurpriſing manner. He is in perfect poſſeſſion of all his faculties; and though he ſometimes complains of his ſight and hearing, evidences the ſame acuteneſs of judgment, that diſtinguiſhed him in his younger years. He can relate facts, of an early date, with great accuracy, and apply them with uncommon ſagacity to preſent occurrences. This deſerving old gentleman is greatly reſpected by all his acquaintance, and has been ſingularly fortunate in his family. His eldeſt ſon, GENERAL ABERCROMBY of TULLIBODY, to whom he has made over his eſtate in this pariſh, now commands part of the Britiſh forces in Holland. His ſecond ſon, GENERAL SIR ROBERT ABERCROMBY, is governor of Bombay, and commander in chief of the forces in Bengal. Having lately commanded one of the armies againſt TIPPOO SAIB, his Majeſty has rewarded his ſervices, by creating him a Knight of the Bath. His third ſon is LORD ABERCROMBY, one of the ſenators of the College of Juſtice, whoſe appointment to that important office gives general ſatisfaction. His daughters are moſt reſpectably married; and, what is ſtill more, he ſees the riſing generation trading in the footſteps of the former: General Abercromby's eldeſt ſon is now accompanying Lord Elgin in his embaſſy: His ſecond is a captain in India: And all this ſingular proſperity, the worthy old gentleman lives to ſee, to enjoy, and TO GIVE GOD the PRAISE.

perfectly exact, yet there is no appearance, that the omiſſions of any one period differ greatly from thoſe of another; and it muſt be obſerved, that the number of boys and girls are nearly equal. The progreſſive average more readily points out the riſe and fall, than could be ſeen from a compariſon of 25 years, from 1668 to 1692, with the ſame number of years, from 1693 to 1717.

An ACCOUNT *of the Number of* BAPTISMS *of* MALES *and* FEMALES, *in the Pariſh of* ALLOA, *extracted from the public Regiſter, from the Year* 1668 *to* 1790; *with a* PROGRESSIVE AVERAGE *of* 25 *Years.*

Years.	Boys.	Average.	Girls.	Average.	Total.	Average.	Years.	Boys.	Average.	Girls.	Average.	Total.	Average.
1668	41		45		86		1694	55	52	64	46	119	99
69	35		26		61		95	62	53	69	47	131	100
1670	52		41		93		96	65	54	50	48	115	102
71	46		33		79		97	47	53	51	48	98	102
72	59		35		94		98	54	53	53	49	107	102
73	51		43		94		99	40	53	44	49	84	103
74	51		29		80		1700	43	53	33	49	76	102
75	49		51		100		1	48	53	45	49	93	103
76	30		36		66		2	63	54	59	49	122	103
77	51		50		101		3	56	54	56	50	112	104
78	40		50		90		4	54	54	58	50	112	105
79	52		45		97		5	47	54	50	50	97	104
1680	52		54		106		6	58	54	52	51	110	105
81	56		37		93		7	48	54	51	51	99	105
82	52		48		100		8	55	54	54	51	109	106
83	58		36		94		9	53	54	48	51	101	106
84	51		46		97		1710	51	54	55	52	106	106
85	54		46		100		11	62	54	57	52	119	106
86	58		48		106		12	59	54	65	53	124	107
87	59		44		103		13	63	54	60	53	123	108
88	51		51		102		14	57	55	58	53	115	108
89	43		62		105		15	52	55	74	54	126	109
1690	42		57		99		16	52	55	62	54	114	109
91	59		64		123		17	81	56	71	55	152	111
92	65	65	31	44	96	95	18	66	55	73	56	139	112
93	75	75	56	44	131	96	19	63	56	75	56	138	113

Years.	Boys.	Average.	Girls.	Average.	Total.	Average.	Years.	Boys.	Average.	Girls.	Average.	Total.	Average.
1720	76	56	71	56	147	113	1756	63	57	56	55	119	113
21	73	56	62	57	135	114	57	53	57	55	55	108	113
22	64	57	78	58	142	116	58	52	56	55	55	107	112
23	67	58	69	58	136	117	59	57	56	54	55	111	112
24	61	59	55	59	116	118	1760	47	56	55	56	102	112
25	61	59	42	60	103	119	61	77	57	62	56	139	114
26	51	59	46	60	97	119	62	71	58	70	56	141	115
27	64	59	58	60	122	119	63	67	58	59	57	126	116
28	56	59	55	60	111	119	64	82	59	74	58	156	119
29	59	60	48	59	107	119	65	57	59	71	59	128	120
1730	57	60	40	59	97	119	66	70	61	68	60	138	122
31	70	60	57	59	127	120	67	67	62	65	61	132	124
32	54	61	58	59	112	120	68	84	63	79	62	163	126
33	67	61	54	59	121	121	69	58	63	76	63	134	126
34	62	61	52	59	114	121	1770	74	64	78	63	152	128
35	53	62	51	59	104	121	71	82	65	63	63	145	129
36	54	61	62	59	116	121	72	70	65	75	64	145	130
37	41	61	55	59	96	120	73	88	66	66	64	154	131
38	70	61	47	59	117	120	74	63	60	77	65	140	131
39*	51	61	35	58	86	119	75	88	66	74	65	162	132
1740	50	61	49	57	99	118	76	84	67	65	65	149	133
41	37	60	36	56	73	116	77	72	68	57	66	129	134
42	49	59	53	56	102	114	78	77	69	84	67	161	135
43	56	58	50	54	106	113	79	74	69	69	67	143	136
44*	55	58	65	54	120	112	1780	80	70	79	67	159	137
45	56	57	65	53	121	111	81	100	71	75	68	175	140
46	56	57	53	53	109	110	82	93	73	68	68	161	142
47	57	56	58	52	115	109	83	70	74	65	69	135	143
48	69	56	63	52	132	109	84	65	74	73	70	138	144
49	73	57	62	52	135	109	85	103	76	75	70	178	147
1750	69	57	61	53	130	111	86	81	76	68	71	149	147
51	53	57	58	53	111	111	87	72	77	68	71	140	147
52	54	57	56	53	110	111	88	91	78	86	72	177	149
53	65	57	62	54	127	111	89	92	78	74	72	166	150
54	61	57	62	54	123	112	1790	74	79	90	72	164	151
55	61	57	72	55	133	131							

The

** The decrease that appears, from 1739 to 1744, was probably owing to the Seceders neglecting to register their children's names. We are now enabled, from the *Parliamentary Register* (which is kept here with care), to furnish a pretty correct list for 8 years (preceding 1792), of marriages and births. As the lists of marriages were always esteemed pretty exact, 20 years have been taken, and compared with the 8 years preceding 1792, which we call the *Parliamentary Register*, from its being kept in consequence of the act of parliament in 1784.

The amount of these 20 years is 876; average, 43, and 4 fifths.

The amount of the last 8 years is 349; average, 43, and 5 eighths.

This wonderful coincidence makes it evident, that there can be little error.

The births, in 8 years, 1,226; average, 153, and 1 fourth.

The deaths, in ditto, 1,170; average, 146, and 1 eighth.

The deaths in 1787 are remarkable; no less than 249; about 100 of which were children, carried off by the small pox. Fevers and fluxes proved very fatal that year.

The following tables of enumeration are thought to be particularly exact. They were all taken by the ſame man; who, in each of them, ſet down the names of every head of a family.

An Account of the Population of the Pariſh of Alloa, taken in 1784.

Diviſions	Families	Souls
Alloa, Coal Bridge and Glaſs-Houſe,	1042	3482
Country, - - - -	97	536
Colliery, - - - -	126	539

Diviſions	Families	Souls
Village of Tullibody, -	71	290
Ditto of Cambus, -	42	178
The whole pariſh, -	1378	5025

An Account of the Population, taken in 1788.

Diviſions	Houſes	Famil.	Males	Femal.	Total	Burghers	Antibur.	Epiſcopals
Town of Alloa, - - - -	381	906	1531	1779	3310	308	425	29
Coal Bridge, - - - -	4	15	29	26	55	0	5	0
Glaſs-Work, - - - -	13	36	76	81	157	15	4	14
Total in the town of Alloa, &c. -	398	957	1636	1886	3522	323	434	43
— Country, - - -	89	89	283	275	558	14	32	9
— Village of Tullibody, - -	70	87	140	198	338	40	90	0
— Ditto of Cambus, - - -	18	38	74	97	171	13	26	0
— The Colliery, - - -	134	143	258	319	577	2	0	0
— The whole pariſh, - - -	710	1314	2391	2775	5166	392	512	52

An Account of the Population, taken in 1791.

DIVISIONS	HOUSES	FAMILIES	MALES						FEMALES							RELIGION		
			Under 10 years	From 10 to 16	From 16 to 50	From 50 to 70	From 70 to 100	Total	Under 10 years	From 10 to 16	From 16 to 50	From 50 to 70	From 70 to 100	Total	Grand total	Burghers	Antiburghers	Episcopals
Town of Alloa,	391	833	374	170	620	181	35	1380	321	151	792	261	36	1561	2941	194	311	17
Coal Bridge,	5	13	11	4	8	4	0	27	11	5	10	4	0	30	57	0	6	0
Glaſs Work,	13	33	15	9	33	4	2	63	26	6	36	2	1	71	134	1	2	8
Alloa, Coal Bridge, and Glaſs Work,	409	879	400	183	661	189	37	1470	358	162	838	267	37	1662	3132	195	319	25
Country,	90	113	79	46	141	18	13	285	63	35	155	19	3	275	560	27	27	7
Village of Tullibody,	89	91	46	17	70	14	14	148	39	23	100	22	4	188	336	37	21	0
Ditto of Cambus,	35	35	15	4	28	8	0	55	11	11	32	13	0	67	122	2	91	0
The Colliery,	143	152	75	52	141	27	12	297	95	47	166	36	11	355	652	2	0	0
The whole pariſh,	766	1270	615	302	1041	256	41	2255	566	278	1291	357	55	2547	4802	263	376	32
The return to Dr. Webſter, in 1755, is ſtated at	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5816			
Decreaſe *,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1014			

* Prior to the year 1788, there was every reaſon to believe, that the pariſh was increaſing, as many new houſes had been erected, and the glaſs-houſe and dry dock eſtabliſhed, where many hands are employed, and the colliery conſiderably extended; all which muſt certainly more than make

Cuſtom-houſe, &c.—The public revenue, and matters of trade, are managed by a cuſtom-houſe, which was eſtabliſhed here a ſhort time after the Union. It was at firſt only a creek, belonging to the port of Borrowſtownneſs. The port of Alloa not only comprehends the town of Alloa, but alſo the creeks of Clackmannan, Kennetpans, Kincardine, Cambus and Manor, on the north ſide of the river; Airth, Dunmore, or Elphinſtone, and Fallin, on the ſouth, together with the ſhore of Stirling.—The ſhips and veſſels belonging to the port, by the returns lately made, amount to 115; their tonnage to 7,241; for the navigation whereof 500 men are employed. The ſtaple trade for theſe ſhips is coal. The greateſt number of the veſſels are employed in the coaſt trade. About 50,000 tons of coal are annually ſent, from the port to places within the frith of Forth, and to parts in the eaſt and north of Scotland. The export and import trade is alſo conſiderable; it is carried to and from the ports of Denmark, Norway, Germany,

make up the deficiency, that might have happened, from the falling off of the camblet trade.

The enlargement of the farms would probably have been given, as a principal reaſon for the diminution, if the 3 enumerations had not proved, that the country part of the pariſh at leaſt was not decreaſed. The largeſt farm was let between the years 1784 and 1788; and the numbers in the country had increaſed in thoſe few years 22 ſouls. The diminution is principally in the town of Alloa, which has indeed been moſt rapid and aſtoniſhing; and can only be accounted for, by the failure of the great diſtilleries in the neighbourhood, who purchaſed large quantities of malt made in this town; which buſineſs employed a conſiderable number of hands in carrying it on, who were ſuddenly thrown out of employment; and much about the ſame time, a cotton work was ſet up at Down, which is not above 10 or 12 miles to the weſtward of this pariſh; and the report, of their giving great encouragement, to the young as well as the old, probably induced many to emigrate from this pariſh, and thereby has occaſioned a temporary decreaſe: But as the collieries, and other branches of trade, are in a very flouriſhing way, it is probable that a ſhort time will replace the deficiency.

many, Holland, Portugal, &c. Coals are the great article of exportation: 6,000 tons are annually exported, with valuable quantities of bottles from the glass-house. The importation generally consists of very considerable quantities of flax, lint-seed, and other articles from Holland; of grain, and wood of all kinds, iron, &c. the produce of the northern countries *.—The Excise here is conducted by a supervisor and 4 officers; and the revenue, though it is much diminished, since the failure of the great distilleries, is yet considerable, being about 5,000l. Sterling. When the distilleries were flourishing, they sometimes paid 23,000l. of duty in 6 weeks time.

Post Office.—The post office has been established for upwards of 30 years. Formerly there was a runner between this and Stirling: now there is a regular post office established. The postage of a single letter from Edinburgh is 3d.; from London 10d. A post has lately been extended to Kincardine; and from thence to Culross, Dumfermline, and the Ferries. This is a great convenience. Upwards of 300l. of annual revenue arises from the post office.

Heritors and Rent.—The principal heritor of the parish is Mr. ERSKINE of Marr. He resides almost always at Alloa, and pays the greatest attention to every scheme of improvement and police. Next to him, in valuation, is General ABERCROMBY of Tullibody. When in the country, he resides at his father's house of Brucefield, in the neighbouring parish of Clackmannan, and contributes very cheerfully every assistance for the good of the parish, that lies in his power. Lord CATHCART'S

* From an abstract of the tonnage, taken from the anchorage duty at the shore of Alloa, it appears, that in 1774, the number of ships, which had been in the harbour, were 555; the tonnage 20,036. In 1791, the ships were 772; the tonnage 48,524.

CATHCART's valuation is very ſmall, his principal property lying in the pariſh of Clackmannan; but his houſe and pleaſure grounds are in this pariſh, and he frequently reſides among us. We are always much indebted to his Lordſhip, for his advice and aſſiſtance when in the country. Lord ALVA, reſiding always out of the pariſh, gives us only the benefit of a ready and cheerful concurrence, with every meaſure propoſed by the reſiding heritors. All theſe gentlemen hold conſiderable property in other pariſhes. The valued rent is 7,492l. 19s. 2d. Scotch. The real rent is probably about 4,000l. Sterling.

Police.—The *good* of the place, and the adminiſtration of *juſtice*, are in the hands of his Majeſty's juſtices of the peace, and the ſheriff-depute. There is only one ſheriff-depute for this and the neighbouring county of Stirling. He appoints his ſubſtitutes; and one conſtantly reſides here, who keeps his courts in this town. The quarter ſeſſions, and other meetings of form, either by the juſtices of the peace, or ſheriff, are held in the county town of Clackmannan, about 2 miles diſtant. There is a baron bailie, named by the proprietor of the eſtate of Marr. He decides on petty offences, and debts not exceeding 40s.; and regulates the ſtents and ceſſes, and other matters of police within the town and barony.—An *admiral court* was formerly kept here, in virtue of a commiſſion from the Lord Vice Admiral of Scotland. The juriſdiction of this court extended from the bridge of Stirling to Pettycur, near Kinghorn, on the north ſide of the Forth, and from Stirling Bridge to Higgin's Neuck on the ſouth. For ſome time paſt, no deputation has been granted, and of courſe no court kept. The want of an admiral court has been complained of, as *a very material grievance*. For want of this, every little triſling diſpute, which happens at the port, muſt be carried before the

Admiralty

Admiralty Court at Edinburgh, at a very considerable expence. Besides, a most serious injury seems likely to arise, from the shipmasters casting their ballast into the river, without any court to check them; which, in process of time, must interrupt the navigation, and hurt the public as well as individals. It is thought, that an admiral court would speedily put a stop to this complaint.

Services, &c.—All kinds of personal services from tenants may be said to be abolished, as those on the estate of Tullibody are seldom or never exacted *. The feuers in the town are obliged to turn out, in case of any accident at the damhead of Gartmorn, &c. This cannot well be looked on as a great hardship, as most of the property would be considerably affected by any inundation. The family of MARR were found by the Court of Session, after a long litigation, to have a right to draw custom for goods passing through the town, as they were obliged to keep up the streets, &c.

Roads.—The statute labour for the roads, is, as in other places, under the direction of the justices of the peace. The cotter's labour is converted into money, and sometimes the farmer's carriages. The country, for some time past, has been amused with schemes for turnpike roads; and perhaps this has occasioned a remissness in the exaction of the statute work. Owing to this, and the many heavy cartiages while the distilleries were flourishing, the roads are exceedingly bad. It is

* When Mr. ERSKINE relieved his tenants of the thirlage, he inclined to have done the same with the multure of the malt, from the brewers in the barony of Alloa; but as that was in such a number of hands, and these continually changing, he found it impracticable. The brewers strongly litigated the point about 20 years ago. It was at length decided in favour of the proprietor.

is not doubted but that ſome reform, in a matter ſo intereſting to the public, will ſoon take place.

Church, &c.—The church of Alloa was repaired and enlarged in 1680, by virtue of a commiſſion from the archbiſhop of St. Andrews. Its length is 65 feet, excluſive of Mr. Erſkine's aiſle; and the breadth 30 feet, beſides 12 feet of addition to the north. At the weſt end it has 2 rows of galleries. It is now too ſmall and incommodious for the numerous inhabitants of this pariſh; for it is extremely crowded when there are 900 hearers, which is often the caſe. There have been many deliberations about building a new one, for upwards of 30 years paſt. To this the heritors are ſtrongly encouraged, by a donation lately made of 1,200l. by Lady CHARLOTTE ERSKINE*; who alſo left 800l. Sterling, the intereſt of which is to be applied for an aſſiſtant miniſter, whoſe income altogether now exceeds 70l. per annum.—The preſent church has a good appearance to the ſouth. The front is of hewn ſtone. There is a ſtatue in a niche of St. MUNGO,

* This ſum her Ladyſhip, (who was a daughter of CHARLES Earl of HOPETON, and widow of THOMAS Lord ERSKINE, ſon of the laſt EARL of MARR), generouſly bequeathed for ſeats to the poor, and to ſuch as had no legal rights to any. The latter, however, were to pay a moderate rent for them; part of which ſum was to go towards augmenting the ſalary of the aſſiſtant miniſter. Many years ago, an aſſiſtant miniſter was eſtabliſhed here, by a donation from Mr. JOHNSTONE, a merchant in Alloa, who left ſome houſes in the town, the rent of which, with the intereſt of 600l., that he had in the hands of a company of merchants in Glaſgow, to be applied for the maintenance of an aſſiſtant miniſter. The company was diſſolved many years ago; and the 600l. was allowed to remain in the hands of one of the partners, who had a good land eſtate, but who unfortunately became bankrupt ſome years afterwards, and the whole was loſt, and nothing left for the aſſiſtant miniſter, but the rents of the houſes. This loſs was replaced by the worthy Lady CHARLOTTE ERSKINE.

holding an open book *; and another of MOSES, putting off his ſhoes before the burning buſh, with the text from *Exodus* iii. 5. The church ſtands on a gently riſing ground, on the weſt ſide of the gardens of Alloa, and is ſet off by ſome old trees near it †.

Stipend, &c.—The victual is converted, on an average of 25 years prior to 1760, and 25 years prior to 1790‡.

Bolls.	1760.			1790. *Per Bolls.*			1760.				1790.			
	s.	*d.*	12*ths*	*s.*	*d.*	12*ths*	*l.*	*s.*	*d.*	12*ths*	*l.*	*s.*	*d.*	12*ths*
3 chal.=32 barley,	10	10	10	16	4	1	17	8	10	8	26	2	10	8
2 do. =48 meal,	10	3	2	14	2	3	24	12	8		34	3	0	
Money, 40 0 Scotch,		-			-		33	6	8		33	6	8	
Vicarage, 71l. 3s. 2d. Scotch,		-			-		5	18	7	2	5	18	7	2
Feu rent of a houſe, 12l. Scotch,		-			-		0	0	0		1	0	0	
Communion elements, 80l. Scotch,		-			-		6	13	4		6	13	4	
N. B. The feu was aſcertained in 1760.														
Total,		-					88	0	1	10	107	4	5	10

beſides two carts of coals per week, *craig-leave*, *i. e.* paying for the collier's labour. Part of the vicarage is paid out of the

* St. MUNGO is reckoned the tutelary ſaint in this, as in many other pariſhes of Scotland. He was a native of Culroſs, and is ſaid to have been educated by St. SERVANUS, commonly called St. *Serf*. This laſt ſeems to have been an itinerary apoſtle, who for ſome time carried on his ſpiritual functions at Tullibody, a part of this pariſh, and moſt probably devolved the charge upon St. Mungo.

† ALEXANDER Lord ERSKINE, in the 15th of King JAMES IV. (1503) founded a chaplainery within the pariſh kirk of Alloa, in honour of the holy and undivided Trinity, Father, Son, and Holy Ghoſt, of the bleſſed Virgin Mary, and St. Kentigern, for which he mortified a certain annuity, to maintain a fit and qualified perſon to celebrate divine ſervice at St. Katherine's altar, &c. &c.

‡ By decree of the court of tiends, 13th February 1793, the ſtipend is augmented to 11 chalders, half meal, and half bear, to be paid at the rate of the fiar prices of Clackmannan. The mode of augmentation is new: The 400l. Scotch, which made part of the ſtipend, is now converted into 4 chalders; 2 chalders are added, which, with the 5 formerly paid, make 11 in all: 80l. Scotch,

the neighbouring pariſhes, and by ſuch a number of hands, as makes the collection of it both very diſagreeable and difficult. Mr. Erſkine has relieved both the miniſter and tenants of the greateſt part of the vicarage on his eſtate. The glebe is about 11 Scotch acres, (very nearly equal to 14 Engliſh), of fertile ground. Formerly it was over-run with weeds; but, by laying it down in graſs, and paſturing, it now yields fine crops. The greateſt part of the glebe lies cloſe to the town, and the remainder very near it. The manſe, which was repaired in 1776, is beautifully ſituated at the head of John's Street, and has a garden adjoining of about half an acre.—By the Earl of Marr's forfeiture in 1715, the Crown is patron.—There is an Antiburgher and a Burgher meeting-houſe in the town, both well attended, and the people are much improved in the civilities of life. There is likewiſe a chapel of the Scotch Epiſcopal church. Their number is ſmall; but they have been joined by ſeveral of the glaſs-houſe work people, whoſe

Scotch, for communion elements, is continued: and 71l. 3s. 2d. Scotch, vicarage, paid as *uſe and wont*. The additional 2 chalders may ſeem a ſmall augmentation for ſo large a pariſh; but the converſion of the money into grain makes it conſiderable, and gives a ſecurity for the ſtipend's riſing with the other neceſſaries of life.

At the Reformation, the ſtipends of the Proteſtant clergy were fixed, to be paid at the rate of ſo many chalders of victual, (the general term in Scotland for all kinds of grain), part of which was paid in kind, and part in money, converting the chalder, in the rich counties, at 100l. Scotch the chalder, and at 80l. Scotch in the leſs fertile ones. It is greatly to be regretted, that the whole ſtipend was not paid in victual; as by that means the value of them would have kept pretty nearly an equal pace with the value of eſtates. This method ſhould now be abſolutely fixed; or if, from local ſituations, it ſhould be very inconvenient to the clergy, to receive the whole in victual, one third might be converted into money; and the value of the bolls ſhould be eſtimated by an average of 25 years; and at the end of the 25 years, a new converſion might be taken; but no alteration ſhould be made, unleſs the price of victual (*i. e.* the medium price of barley and malt), differed from the former one 6d. pence per boll.

education leads them to prefer that form of worſhip. The five clergymen, who are in town, live in the greateſt harmony and good intercourſe with one another †.

Schools and Donations.—There is a numerous and flouriſhing ſchool, conducted by a *rector* and *doctor*, (i. e. a maſter and uſher), both of whom have very good apartments. The rector takes boarders, and gives them every private aſſiſtance. The pious Lady CHARLOTTE ERSKINE left 300l. Sterling for educating poor children, and having them cathechiſed on Sunday evenings; which, according to the direction of Mr. ERSKINE, to whoſe care it was committed, has been begun, and promiſes great ſucceſs, under the direction of the doctor, who aſſembles them, with all who chooſe to attend on the Sunday evenings. This meeting the miniſters occaſionally attend, and mark the progreſs of the young, when the moſt diligent are rewarded with little books. Her Ladyſhip likewiſe bequeathed 400l. towards aſſiſting the ſchools of the colliery. The charitable donations of this lady ought not to be omitted in this place, though they are deeply engraven in the hearts of many. Children of all ſects have acceſs tothe benefit of theſe ſchools. There are likewiſe ſeveral private ſchools, where ſome of the younger and poorer ſcholars are educated. In the village of Tullibody, there is a numerous ſchool, patronized by General ABERCROMBY. In the colliery there are two ſchools, to accommodate what are called *the Upper* and *Lower Works*, i. e. the *Collyland* and *Alloa*. All theſe ſchools are well attended, and promiſe much public benefit.

Mineral

† Dr. JAMES FORDYCE, author of the *Sermons to Young Women*, was laſt miniſter of this pariſh. He was admitted in October 1753, and went to London in 1760, when he was ſucceeded by the preſent incumbent.

Mineral Waters and Foſſils.—There are many ſprings, ſtrongly impregnated with ſteel. One of them is within the houſe of Alloa; but it is not known that any of them have been ſufficiently analyſed, to ſpeak of their effects. There are various quarries in the pariſh; ſome very indifferent, a few very good. One of them has been wrought upwards of 100 years. It is a remarkably good ſtone in every particular, excepting the colour, which is a faint red; but it endures all kinds of fatigue. A very great quantity has been made uſe of, although it lies very deep in the earth, and of courſe is expenſive to work. There is another quarry on the eaſt ſide of the pariſh, of a good quality, and uncommonly white. There are ſeams of coal underneath each of theſe quarries. There is a field of yellow clay, or ochre, excellently adapted for fine bricks. It ſometimes ſupplies the place of lime on the outſides of houſes; but its various qualities have not yet been aſcertained.

Wild Animals.—The wild animals are the ſame as are common to all the Low Country: hares, rabbits, foxes, badgers, otters, *foumarts*, or polecats, and *ſtoats*, or ermines. Theſe laſt are very rare. There are no wild cats. The birds moſt numerous are partridges. Some few quails and land rails are ſometimes ſeen in autumn; but they are abundant in the breeding ſeaſon. The whiſtling or grey plovers alight ſometimes on the high grounds in ſpring, and likewiſe the dotterels, both on their way to the Ochils. The bittern is become very ſcarce. Curlews frequent the ſide of the Forth. There are few herons that breed here. There are thruſhes, blackbirds, woodlarks, bull finches, and all the finch tribe; ſky larks, buntings, yellow hammers, and waterwagtails, white and yellow; in ſummer, ſtone-chatterers, and various kinds of ſwallows; in winter, the ſeveral kinds of fieldfares, woodcocks and ſnipes, and ſometimes

times ſnow birds. The lapwing, or green plover, breeds on the high grounds; but as cutlivation advances, their numbers viſibly decreaſe. The hoody, or Royſton crow, breeds here. Jackdaws, crows, magpies and ravens are often ſeen, but do not breed. There are alſo hawks, kings-fiſhers, ſandlarks, water crows, and ſome few of the long eared bats, owls and ſcreech owls.

Antiquities.—About a mile eaſt of the town, there is a large upright ſtone, 7 feet 4 inches above the ſurface of the ground. It is three feet broad, and thought to be very deep in the earth. The old people uſe to ſpeak of the figure of a man on horſeback, which they had ſeen on it. If any thing of that kind, or letters (as it is ſaid), have been formerly obſerved, they are now totally effaced *.

Ancient Families and Eminent Perſons.—There are no families of any conſequence now exiſting, which were originally of this pariſh. The branch of the ABERCROMBIES, which ſettled at Tullibody towards the end of laſt century, are deſcended from the family of Birkenboig in Banff-ſhire, where it has been long eſtabliſhed.

The Lords CATHCART only made this the ſeat of their reſidence, upon parting with the great eſtate and beautiful place of Auchincruive, which they poſſeſſed for ages in Ayr-ſhire. Their

* When the adjacent farm was encloſing, upwards of 20 years ago, a ditch was made cloſe to the ſtone, when many human bones were diſcovered; which proves, that a battle or ſkirmiſh had ſome time or other taken place near that ſpot; and probably ſome man of eminence was buried hard by, as it was a common practice of the Picts on ſuch occaſions. There are two ſtones reſembling this one, in the neighbouring pariſh of Alva, at no great diſtance from the church, but not cloſe to one another. They are both near the foot of the Ochils.

Their poſſeſſions in this, and the adjoining pariſhes, deſcended to the late Lord Cathcart from his grandmother Lady SHAW; whoſe huſband had purchaſed them, in the beginning of this century, at a judicial ſale, from the Bruces of Clackmannan.

Neither can the ERSKINES be ſaid to be originally of this pariſh, although they got the lands, which they are now poſſeſſed of, in the reign of King Robert Bruce. They were originally ſettled in Renfrewſhire. They ſucceeded by a female, in 1461, to the earldom of Marr; but it was not until the year 1561 that they got poſſeſſion of it. It was at that time declared in parliament, that, in juſtice, the earldom of Marr belonged to JOHN LORD ERSKINE, who, in the year 1571, was elected regent of Scotland, on the death of the Earl of Lennox. How honourably he filled that troubleſome ſtation, is recorded by all our hiſtorians*. Unfortunately he was cut off by a ſudden death. The famous GEORGE BUCHANAN has celebrated his virtues in an elegant epitaph.

Theſe matters, however, belong rather to *hiſtory* than to a *ſtatiſtical account;* but it would be improper to omit mentioning the laſt EARL of MARR, who had a great turn for embelliſhing the country. LORD HADINGTON, in his *Treatiſe*

on

*The family of ERSKINE have often been honoured with having their infant ſovereigns intruſted to their care, (particularly King JAMES V. the unfortunate Queen MARY, JAMES VI. and his ſon Prince HENRY), which ſacred truſt they moſt faithfully diſcharged. They have ſome curious papers relative to thoſe tranſactions.—The regent's ſon was brought up with King James VI. He was appointed ambaſſador to England a ſhort time before Elizabeth's death. The ambaſſador's preſent is ſtill preſerved in the family: It is a baſon and ewer, remarkable for its workmanſhip, and the elegance of its ſhape. Lord Marr, in his embaſſy, is ſuppoſed to have contributed towards the peaceable acceſſion of King James to the throne of England. The Duke of SULLY mentions him in his memoirs, and calls him his friend. On the Duke's return to France, the famous HENRY IV. wrote a letter to Lord Marr, which is ſtill preſerved in the archives of the family.

on Foreſt Trees, ſays, "It was the late EARL of MARR, that "firſt introduced the *wilderneſs way of planting* among us, "and very much improved the taſte of our gentlemen, who "ſoon followed his example." And the gardens at Alloa, which were laid out according to the faſhion of the times, were long viſited and admired. The Earl, unhappily for his country, himſelf and family, was principally concerned in the rebellion 1715. But whatever errors he may have fallen into, it cannot be denied, by any one who reads the papers he has left behind him, that he had the general improvement of his country greatly at heart. His only amuſement, during the long exile in which he died, was to draw plans and deſigns, for the good of that much loved country from which he was baniſhed; and there is one paper*, dated in 1728, which

* Speaking of the public works neceſſary for the improvement of Scotland, Lord Marr ſays, "All ways of improving Edinburgh ſhould be thought on: "as, in particular, making a large bridge, of three arches, over the grounds be- "twixt the North Loch and Phyſic Garden, from the High Street at Halker- "ſtone's Wynd to the Multurſey Hill, where many fine ſtreets might be built, "as the inhabitants increaſed. The acceſs to them would be eaſy on all hands, "and the ſituation would be agreeable and convenient, having a noble proſpect "of all the fine ground towards the ſea, the frith of Forth, and coaſt of Fife. "One large and long ſtreet, in a ſtraight line, where the Long Gate is now; "on one ſide of it would be a fine opportunity for gardens down to the North "Loch; and one on the other ſide, towards Broughton. No houſes to be on "the bridge, the breadth of the North Loch; but, ſelling the places on the "ends of the bridge for houſes, and the vaults and arches below for warehouſes "and cellars, the charge of the bridge might be near defrayed.

"Another bridge might alſo be made on the other ſide of the town, and al- "moſt as uſeful and commodious as that on the north. The place where it "could be moſt eaſily made is St. Mary's Wynd and the Pleaſants. The hollow "there is not ſo deep as where the other bridge is propoſed; ſo that it is thought "two ſtories of arches might raiſe it near upon a level with the ſtreet at the "head of St. Mary's Wynd. Betwixt the ſouth end of the Pleaſants and the Potter-

which takes notice of the improvements of the metropolis, that have been ſince carried into execution, and which deſerves to be more generally known.

The

" Potter-Row, and from thence to Briſto Street, and by the back of the wall " at Herriot's Hoſpital, there are fine ſituations for houſes and gardens. There " would be fine avenues to the town, and outlets from it for airing, walking, " &c. &c. by theſe bridges; and Edinburgh, from being a bad incommodious " ſituation, would become a very beneficial and convenient one: And, to make " it ſtill more ſo, a branch of that river, called the Water of Leith, might, it is " thought, be brought from ſomewhere about the Colt Bridge, to fill and run " through the North Loch, which would be of great advantage to the conveni- " ence, beauty, cleanlineſs and healthfulneſs of the town.

" The making a canal betwixt the rivers of Forth and Clyde would be a " great improvement to Scotland, as well as of great ſervice to the trade of the " whole iſland, eſpecially the India trade, by ſaving a dangerous long paſſage " round Britain, ſince, by that canal the weſt and eaſt ſea would be joined. " The way for leading of this canal is from near Glaſgow, by Kilſyth, to the " mouth of the river Carron below Falkirk. It is practicable, as Mr. Adair, " Mr. Smith, Mr. M'Gill, and Mr. Sorocold judged, who travelled twice over " the ground, with a view to this work. From the hills of Campſie, and the " river Carron they thought there would be water ſufficient got for filling the " canal; and that, by the aſſiſtance of ſeveral ſluices near to Glaſgow and ſome " in other parts, the canal would be made practicable for flat bottomed boats of " a very conſiderable burden. They computed that 30,000l. Sterling might do " the work; but, ſhould it coſt the double, it would be well beſtowed, and be " ſoon repaid by the profit ariſing from the canal."

Having ſaid ſo much of this unfortunate nobleman, it is no more than juſtice to the inhabitants of this and the neighbouring pariſhes, to mention their behaviour to him during his exile, while the eſtate continued under the direction of the commiſſioners of the forfeited eſtates. They contributed conſiderably towards aſſiſting him under his misfortunes. Nor ſhould an inſtance of gratitude paſs unnoticed: The Earl, whoſe taſte for architecture was generally known, introduced the celebrated Mr. GIBBS into buſineſs, the beginning of this century. Mr. Gibbs dying without children, left the greateſt part of the fortune he had acquired to LORD ERSKINE, the ſon of his firſt patron.

The following is a copy of the complimentary poem (above mentioned), wrote by George Buchanan upon JOHN EARL of MARR, who was regent of Scotland, during the minority of King JAMES VI.

JOANNI ARESKINO, Comiti MARRIÆ, SCOTORUM PROREGI.

Si quis ARESKINUM memoret per bella ferocem,
Pace gravem nulli, tempore utroque pium;
Si quis opes sine fastu, animum sine fraude, carentem
Rebus in ambiguis suspicione fidem;
Si quod ob has dotes, sævis jactata procellis
Fugit in illius patria fessa sinum;
Vera quidem memoret, sed non & propria: laudes
Qui pariter petet has unus & alter erit.
Illud ei proprium est, longo quod in ordine vitæ
Nil odium aut livor quod reprehendat habet.



APPENDIX.

Containing ſome Pieces of additional Information, received after the Accounts of the reſpective Pariſhes, to which they refer, were gone to the Preſs.

NUMBER XVIII.

BEITH, p. 314.

The miniſter of this pariſh, in a letter ſent ſince the account of it was printed, ſays, that the article of *cheeſe* was conſiderably under-rated; that the average produce from each cow is 4l. Sterling, and the total amount per annum 4000l. Sterling. He farther adds, that there are three *bleachfields* in the pariſh, in one of which a good deal of buſineſs is done; that, in the table of *artificers, &c.* 4 ſtocking makers, and 6 coal-hewers, are omitted; and that, to the article of *minerals*, may be added *zeolite* and *barytes*. He concludes, by expreſſing his earneſt wiſh, that the encouragement intended to be given to the *Friendly or Charitable Societies* in England, by act of parliament, may be alſo extended to Scotland.

NUMBER XX.

GLENORCHAY and INISHAIL, p. 335.

Population.—In the farms of *Phanans Krachan*, or *Lornfurnace*, there are about 200 ſouls; but the exact proportion of males and females is not aſcertained.

Potatoes.—In 1788, Dr. JAMES ANDERSON, in the *Memoirs of the Society for Encouraging Agriculture, &c.* gives the following important facts reſpecting this valuable eſculent root, and which ought not to be omitted, as they may be of uſe to the practical farmer, eſpecially in the remote parts of the kingdom; *viz.*

1*ſt*, It is found, from *actual experiment*, that it is a matter of indifference, whether the potatoes, employed as *ſets*, be whole, or cut in pieces, provided the *ſets* be of the ſame ſize; but that a variation of the ſize planted, always affects the amount of the crop in a remarkable degree. The largeſt ſets, in all caſes, produce the greateſt crop.

2*dly*, If the ſtems of potatoes be cut over, while they are green, and ſucculent, the increaſe of bulbs, from that moment, is ſtopt, and the crop by this means greatly diminiſhed.

3*dly*, Potatoes advance much more, after the time they are uſually thought to have attained their maturity, than is in general ſuſpected.

The following table ſhews the weight of the produce of ſix ſtems, taken up at periods of one week intervening between each.

		lb.	*oz.*			*lb.*	*oz.*
Auguſt 2d,	-	2	12 *	Auguſt 23d,	-	9	5
—— 10th,	-	5	8	—— 29th,	-	10	10
—— 17th,	-	6	2	Septem. 5th,	-	15	12

* Theſe potatoes were of an early kind, and juſt coming into bloſſom.

END OF VOLUME EIGHTH.

ERRATA.

Contents, page 1. *line* 7; *for* 500. *read* 590.

Page.	Line.				
200.	6.;	*for*	lanes	*read*	tenements
202.	20.;	*after*	excellent	——	common
	28.;	*for*	between 2 and 3	——	from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to $2\frac{1}{2}$
203.	23.;	——	eaſtward	——	weſtward
205.	21.;	——	40l.	——	40s.
216.	4.;	——	22,500	——	25,000
	8.;	——	11,123	——	11,023

At the foot of this page, inſert, may have it effectually ſecured from mildew. 3. Sackcloth, principally for the uſe of the neighbouring county. The

217.	12.;	*for*	wool	*read*	woof
222.	24.;	——	yards	——	quarters
223.	14, 15.;	——	all manufactured linens, *read,* linens manufactured for exportation		
	28.;	——	prices	*read*	pieces
225.	9.;	——	1001	——	1601
229.	23.;	*after*	27 feet	*add*	ſq are
231.	23.;	——	and	——	the 3
232.	18, 19.;	——	perſons, *delete* The preachers are diſtinguiſhed in the congregation by the names of biſhop and elders.		
234.	33.;	*after*	by	*read*	Mr. William Roger
235.	3.;	*for*	1083l. 8s. $6\frac{1}{2}$d.	——	1070l. 19s. 9d.
236.	14.;	——	25	——	50
	15.;	——	28	——	45
	32.;	——	2l. 5s. 0d.	——	5l. 0s. 0d.
	33.;	——	1360l. 11s. 0d.	——	1615l. 6s. 6d.
	35.;	——	2377l. 5s. 3d.	——	2191l. 6s. 6d.
242.	13.;	——	Major	——	Colonel
245.	21.;	*after*	will not	——	while the preſent regulations continue
514.	9.;	*for*	94	——	73
531.	17.;	——	970	——	978
558.	8.;	——	3000	——	3700
594.	4.;	——	this walk	——	the gravel walk
	23.;	——	King's	——	Kerſie
634.	38.;	——	131	——	118

ERRATA